



## Turkey plans aid-for-oil deal with Iraq

ANKARA (R) — Turkey said Wednesday it would send Iraq aid by U.N. trade sanctions on Baghdad. The oil will not be used in the world market. Foreign Ministry spokesman Ferhat Ataman told reporters. "But there will be some welcome to Turkey, and in return U.N. resolutions." Several million barrels of oil has been trapped in the 1,000-kilometer Iraq-Turkish export pipeline since August 1990 when the United Nations imposed a trade embargo on Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait. Mr. Ataman said all the oil would be pumped out next week to examine the pipeline for possible corrosion and make repairs. The pipeline would be flushed, tested and made ready for Iraqi oil exports to resume whenever U.N. sanctions are lifted. "About 3.8 million barrels belong to Turkey," Mr. Ataman said. "So oil belonging to Iraq will also be coming here...but there is no question of material gain for Iraq in the process."

# Jordan Times

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### Majali cancels trip

AMMAN (R) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali has cancelled a trip to Romania during which he was to attend an international economic forum, officials said on Wednesday. They gave no reason for his decision.

### Iraq denies planting bomb in Tehran

NICOSIA (AP) — Iraq's state-run news agency Wednesday denied Iranian radio reports that Baghdad's agents were responsible for planting a bomb in Tehran. The bomb exploded Tuesday in one of Tehran's busiest streets, wounding 13 people, including a 12-year-old child. The Iraqi News Agency's international affairs editor said the Iranian accusation was "absolutely silly" and part of an anti-Iraqi media campaign. Tehran Radio has blamed the bombing on "Iraqi infiltrators."

### Endeavour lands

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE (AP) — Space shuttle Endeavour took a detour and landed in California's Mojave desert Wednesday after calling off a second landing attempt in cloudy Cape Canaveral. The radar, a joint project of the United States, Germany and Italy, mapped over 111 million square kilometers of the earth, including 25 percent of the world's land. The space shuttle and its crew of six swooped through a clear sky and touched down at Edwards Air Force Base at 1654 GMT, 11 days after blasting off from Florida on a mission to gather 3-D images of earth with sophisticated radar instruments.

### Kuwait magazine faces prosecution

KUWAIT (AP) — The Ministry of Information has referred a weekly magazine belonging to an Islamic group to the prosecutor on charges of publishing reports that could undermine Kuwait's relations with other Arab countries, judicial sources said Wednesday. Attorney General Mohammad Al Zoubi told the Associated Press that he had summoned the editor-in-chief of Al Muhajirah and some of his staff for questioning after they had been accused of "violating the publications law." Al Muhajirah has been critical of the Egyptian government's crackdown on Muslim fundamentalists. Its chief editor, Mohammad Al Boushi, said he had received a number of letters from the Ministry of Information urging the magazine to be more careful with its reports.

### U.N. says Iraqi research safe

BAGHDAD (R) — Sites visited so far by a U.N. inspection team indicate that Iraq's biological research is safe and normal, a United Nations expert said on Wednesday.

"From what we have seen already...we have no reason to believe that something wrong is going on in this country," Volker Beck, head of a visiting U.N. team of biological experts, told Reuters. Mr. Beck arrived in Baghdad on April 8 and has so far visited more than a dozen Iraqi sites engaged in biological research. He said his team inspected work and instruments at different types of facilities, "starting with universities to routine laboratories up to production sites that work in the field of biological technology."

### Somalis kidnap Sudanese envoy

MOGADISHU (R) — Somali gunmen have kidnapped Sudan's envoy to Somalia in a notorious Mogadishu district where inter-clan fighting has raged for four days. Witnesses said Abdul Baqi Mohammad Hassan was about to arrive at the Nasser Hablood hotel where he stayed when three gunmen intercepted his car, dragged him into their vehicle and sped off. Staff at the hotel said no ransom demands had been received. Sudanese community leaders were holding talks with leaders of the Hawadle clan

## Israel, PLO reach deal on civil powers and water for Gaza

end" as he left Israel for the meeting.

Mr. Tarifi, who heads the PLO's negotiating team on civilian issues, said that among the 38 categories of civilian control agreed to Wednesday in Cairo was the troublesome issue of water.

The agreement resolves dozens of disputes over how Palestinians will run day-to-day affairs in Gaza and the West Bank town once Israel's army withdraws. But other differences have yet to be resolved before Israel begins the actual withdrawal.

Two of the toughest conflicts — legal jurisdiction and release of Palestinian prisoners — were to be discussed by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres at a meeting Wednesday night or Thursday in Bucharest, Romania.

Mr. Peres said the negotiations were "getting close to the

increased. Gadi Zohar, head of the Israeli delegation for transfer of civilian authority to Palestinians, said: "We reached an agreement on the water. It's finished."

He would not give any further details but said Gen. Shahak would give more information on the water deal on Thursday.

Mr. Tarifi said the Palestinians would be informed of the number of wells in settlements and the amount of water used.

The PLO has sought figures from Israel on water use since peace talks began in Madrid, Spain, in October 1991.

Earlier, Dr. Shaath said the water agreement meant "essentially the water and its administration in the Gaza Strip and Jericho will be under Palestinian control."

According to Mr. Tarifi, the water agreement specifies supplies to Gaza's Jewish settlements will remain under Israel's control but the amount of water for settlers will not be

(Continued on page 5)

## Palestinian dies; Hamas threatens retaliation for crackdown

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, on Wednesday threatened to retaliate against Israel's sweeping arrests of about 400 activists by targeting Israeli security agents.

In the occupied West Bank, a Palestinian died of his wounds a day after being shot by soldiers who opened fire on stone-throwing protesters, hospital officials said.

The victim was identified as Yassir Mahmoud Hamad, 23.

The army confirmed wounding of six Palestinians in the clash at Qalandia refugee camp north of Jerusalem.

A leaflet published by the military arm of Hamas, a group opposed to the Israeli-Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) accord, said it would "not take long to make response to this outrageous campaign" of arrests in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

The leaflet said the armed underground cells of Hamas, known as the Izzedine Al Qassam Brigades, were "planning attacks on Israeli intelligence officers."

It mentioned two past killings of Shin Bet security agents

including one slain earlier this year in Ramallah and another killed in January 1993 in Jerusalem. Both were believed carried out through the help of Palestinian informants who targeted on their handlers.

Hamas activists killed 12 Israelis in two suicide bombings this month, and the group has vowed to keep striking until it equals the death toll of more than 30 Palestinians massacred in Hebron in February by a Jewish settler.

Israel said Wednesday it had rounded up 362 suspected Hamas activists this week in a sweep throughout the occupied lands.

"The account between us and the terror twins (Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and army chief Ehud Barak) will stay open so long as there is one Israeli soldier on the West Bank and Gaza Strip," the leaflet said.

In a replay of the December 1992 sweep that preceded the expulsion to Lebanon for a year of hundreds of Muslim activists, troops and plainclothes agents broke into houses all over the occupied lands on Tuesday, herding suspects into minibuses.

The Haaretz daily said that some of those arrested were involved in planning the two suicide attacks. Others were lower-level activists, Israeli and Palestinian reports said.

A measure of the nervousness that the threats have engendered in Israel came Wednesday with a bogus report of a bus attack broadcast immediately on the army-run radio station. Minutes later police said they were questioning a deranged elderly woman suspected of calling police with the crank report.

(Continued on page 5)

## Iraqi diplomats refuse to quit Beirut embassy

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi diplomats, ordered to get out of Lebanon, are refusing to leave the embassy unless all staff including two wanted over the murder of a dissident, are granted safe passage, official sources said on Wednesday.

The Beirut government ordered the embassy closed by Friday.

Two Iraqi diplomats already are in police custody, suspected of involvement in the April 12 assassination of Sheikh Taleb Ali Al Sabeel, a key figure in a plot to overthrow Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein last year.

The reported Iraqi threat to defy the expulsion orders further heightened tensions in the week-long standoff between the two countries, which resulted in Lebanon severing diplomatic ties with Iraq.

In Baghdad, a Foreign Ministry spokesman accused Lebanon of violating the 1961 Vienna convention that regulates diplomatic immunity.

"It has detained diplomats who possess diplomatic immunity... charging them with baseless accusations," the spokesman was quoted as saying by the state-run Iraqi News Agency (INA).

The spokesman said Iraq demanded that "the Lebanese

government release the detained diplomats immediately and refrain from harassing others in any way."

He demanded that Lebanon allow all staff at the embassy to leave the country.

The case raised questions over whether the Beirut government had the jurisdiction under international law to arrest and put on trial foreign diplomats. There is no precedent in Lebanon of a diplomat put on trial.

The French-language L'orient le Jour newspaper said Wednesday Iraqi Charge d'Affaires Awad Falaki demanded safe passage out of the country for himself and four diplomats holed up in the mission in Beirut's eastern suburb of Hazmieh.

"Repatriation of all (except the two arrested diplomats), or of no one," the newspaper quoted Baghdad's top diplomat in Beirut as saying.

Failing that, Mr. Awad reportedly said, the embassy staff would barricade themselves in the complex.

Lebanese government and judicial authorities declined to comment on the newspaper report. Telephone calls to the embassy were not answered Wednesday.

Lebanon has told all embas-

(Continued on page 5)

## Christopher confirms he will carry 'proposals' to end crisis over blockade

By Nermene Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, scheduled to start a Mideast tour on Sunday, said Tuesday he was carrying proposals to ease the "burden" of the U.S.-led naval blockade on the Red Sea port of Aqaba.

Mr. Christopher, who is ex-

pected to meet His Majesty King Hussein in London Monday,

said the U.S. administration

"quite understands that

Iraqi sanctions have imposed a considerable burden on Jordan.

"We would like to find a way

to ease that burden," Mr.

Christopher said.

Speaking on the U.S. information network WorldNet, Mr. Christopher said he felt reassured that Jordan "does not want to be hospitable to terrorists or have terrorists operating on its territory," in reference to the recent ban on Hamas activities in the Kingdom after one of its Amman-based members claimed responsibility for suicide attacks in Israel.

Asked whether there was growing tension in U.S.-Jordanian relations after Jordan suspended its active role in the Middle East peace negotiations, Mr. Christopher said that relations between the two countries "are excellent" adding that "sometimes even best friends have problems."

He rejected charges that Jordan was being pressured to sign a separate peace agreement with Israel before fully negotiating the issues on the agenda signed in Washington on Sept. 14 last year, saying that "there has been a good deal of progress and there was an agreement on the agenda and a good deal of the working."

"The King felt that the signature should be the crowning achievement of the negotiations and we respect that," Mr. Christopher said. "I look forward to meeting King Hussein during the

(Continued on page 5)

## Resistance strikes in S. Lebanon

MARJAYOUN (Agencies) — Guerrillas attacked Israeli-backed militiamen in South Lebanon Wednesday, sparking mortar and artillery duels in which three Lebanese civilians were killed and four wounded, security sources said.

The Hezbollah group said its

guerrillas blasted an outpost of the Israeli-affiliated South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia with rocket-propelled grenades and machine-gum fire.

Security sources said there were no casualties in the early evening attack on the SLA outpost in Shoumariyah, on the edge of the central sector of Israel's "security zone," said the sources.

They said at least 25 bowitzer shells crashed within an hour into areas where guerrillas of Hezbollah operate.

U.N. sources, requesting anonymity, said a shell blasted a house in the village of Froun within the area policed by the UNIFIL contingent of U.N. peacekeeping forces in South Lebanon.

There were no casualties among the peacekeepers, but the sources said a villager, Hassan Hayek, 35, his wife Dalal, 25, and their neighbour Munir Haidar, 50, were killed. Four others were wounded in the village.

The clashes followed an announcement that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher would begin a new Middle East trip next week to review the restoration of the Dome of the Rock mosque, the Regent reviewed the Hashemite

country's efforts to protect the holy places and its long historical links with the Holy City.

Speaking at the Royal Court at a meeting with the ministers of Awqaf and Islamic affairs of Syria, Yemen and Iraq who

## Regent urges Arab, Muslim efforts to foil Israeli plots in Jerusalem

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the Regent, on Wednesday urged Arab and Islamic countries to unite their stand and confront Israeli plots in Jerusalem and the threats the plots pose to the Arab and Islamic character of the Holy City.

Speaking at the Royal Court at a meeting with the ministers of Awqaf and Islamic affairs of Syria, Yemen and Iraq who

attended Monday's celebrations marking the completion of the restoration of the Dome of the Rock mosque, the Regent reviewed the Hashemite

country's efforts to protect the holy places and its long historical links with the Holy City.

Delegations from various Arab and Islamic countries who took part in the celebrations were taken on visits Wednesday to Mutra near Karak and the shrines set up on the burial places of the companions of the Prophet Mohammad in Jordan.

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## Saudi rights group moves to London

NICOSIA (R) — A Saudi Arabian civil rights group said on Wednesday it was resuming activities but moving its operations to Britain following a crackdown on its members in the conservative kingdom.

A statement by the Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights in Saudi Arabia (CDLR) said the group had no choice but to move to London because all means and methods of free expression and reform became "impossible" in Saudi Arabia.

It said repressive measures against the group included "banning from travel, dismissal from work, closure of private practices, imprisonment, torture and threats of murder."

The statement appealed to Saudi citizens "and to all those who are eager to see the elimination of oppression and the establishment of equality and justice to cooperate with us until we accomplish these goals and objectives."

The CDLR was set up in May 1993 by ultra-conservative religious figures. It was declared illegal by Saudi religious leaders who argued that the kingdom's Islamic laws had adequate provisions for protecting citizens' rights.

The government sacked the group's members from official posts.

The statement was faxed to Reuters from London and was signed by the group's spokesman, Mohammad Al Massari, who was reported to have gone missing in March in the kingdom.

But the group said by telephone from London that Mr. Massari, who was freed from prison in Saudi Arabia in November after six months in detention for his role in setting up the group, was in London.

It said he disappeared in Saudi Arabia as a cover to arrange his escape to Europe because Saudi authorities had banned the group's members from travelling abroad.

## With autonomy stalled, Gazans see slide to chaos, fear

By Neil Macfarquhar  
The Associated Press

KHAN YUNIS, occupied Gaza Strip — Tired of crowding with his wife and six children into a room the size of a parking space, Ibrahim Abu Mustafa made a grab for prime real estate when the Israeli army started pulling back.

"There is chaos now, so I thought it would be a good time to build," he said. "There is no authority to stop me."

But when he tried to build a house on the crest of a sand dune overlooking the Mediterranean, the Israeli army twice knocked down the foundation.

Although the building site was on the rugged edge of the Palestinian refugee camp, the dune also overlooks two Israeli army posts, so the military apparently revised its hands-off policy and stopped the construction.

This power vacuum in the Gaza Strip leaves Palestinians like Abu Mustafa in limbo between Israel's diminishing vigilance and the arrival of Palestinian authority.

Rival factions with guns are trying to control their pieces of Gaza and residents fear chaos and perhaps civil war.

"We don't have 100 per cent control. Anyone who tells you they have 100 per cent control is lying," said Hisham Abdul Rizzak, released last fall from two decades in Israeli prisons and now heading the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) office in Gaza.

The head of the secretive Israeli security agency, Shin Bet, told Sunday's cabinet meeting that chaos and massacres among the Palestinians would accompany autonomy, reported the newspaper *Yedioth Ahronoth*.

Palestinians worry that unless Mr. Arafat finds a democratic way to assert authority soon, the slide could continue to the point where Gaza becomes another Beirut.

## Turks keep up attacks on rebels in Iraq

ANKARA (R) — About 10,000 Turkish troops have killed more than 60 rebel Kurds in northern Iraq in a week-long cross-border assault, a military spokesman said on Tuesday.

"The operation will continue until the region is cleaned of the influence of separatist bands," said Turkish General Staff spokesman Colonel Dogu Silahoglu.

He said the land-air operation launched on April 12 had killed at least 60 rebels of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK).

"These 60 are bodies actually found. There are more which have been hidden or taken away," he added, but gave no details of any casualties on the Turkish side.

The initial assault on PKK camps at Mezi and Kerya Deri south of the Turkish border town of Cukurca has widened westwards to encircle another PKK base at Shivi.

Newspapers quoted a Turkish military commander on the spot as saying that up to 10,000 army commands, specially-trained mountain troops and state-paid village guard had advanced 15 kilometres inside Iraq along a 55-kilometre front.

"We can now control an area of 600 square kilometre, Sabah newspaper quoted the task force's commander, Lieutenant General Hasan Kundakci, as saying.

Gen. Kundakci was speaking to Turkish reporters taken to the Mezi camp, captured by Kurdish troops at the weekend.

Troops have seized anti-aircraft guns, mortars, automatic weapons, rocket-propelled grenades, rifles, hand grenades, landmines, explosives, wireless sets, ammunition and caches of food and clothing in PKK hideouts in the rugged region.

Prime Minister Tansu Ciller said on Tuesday that 1994 would be a turning point in the fight against the PKK.

"We are determined to end terrorism... they (PKK rebels) should surrender before summer comes," she told her parliamentary party group.

Prime Minister Tansu Ciller said on Tuesday that 1994 would be a turning point in the fight against the PKK.

"It is not totally out of the question that Fatah will divide. It would engulf the whole area. That would be devastating," said Khalil Shikaki, director of the centre for Palestinian Research and Studies in Nablus.

Palestinians worry that unless Mr. Arafat finds a democratic way to assert authority soon, the slide could continue to the point where Gaza becomes another Beirut.

## Israelis, Palestinians must see changes on the ground, says Ross

By Rosalind Mandine Murphy

WASHINGTON (USA) — The Middle East peace process has reached a point where it is imperative that both Palestinians and Israelis see positive and concrete changes on the ground, Dennis Ross, the U.S. special Middle East coordinator, said April 18.

Mr. Ross was discussing the status of the peace process during remarks to the National Foreign Policy Conference for Leaders in Higher Department.

Secretary Christopher Wirth, Counsellor Wirth, speaking on other topics, also addressed the conference.

Mr. Ross recounted the escalating violence in the Israel and the occupied territories since the February 25 massacre of Palestinian worshippers by a Jewish settler in Hebron and the subsequent acts of retaliation by Arabs who killed Israelis. Those carrying out these acts, he charged, "are trying to target and kill peace."

The primary task for the United States and the parties to the negotiations therefore, is to "come out and generate enough momentum and enough tangible progress" to move the peace process forward and "isolate and discredit the extremists," Mr. Ross said.

Israel and Palestinian negotiators recognise the need to accelerate the negotiations and implement the declaration of Principles and have resumed their talks in Cairo, Mr. Ross reported.

The greatest challenge these negotiators face, Mr. Ross said, "is to be able to convince their publics that, in fact, the promise of the agreement that was reached in September is going to be matched by new realities on the ground."

Mr. Ross conceded that up to this point there has been "a gap" between the high expectations created by the declaration of principles and what in fact has been achieved since the signing of the agreement on the White House lawn on September 17.

"Since that time you have had the promise of that agreement which is still largely abstract in terms of people on both sides, and at the same point, you have had a change in realities on the ground that for the most part has been negative," Mr. Ross said.

While the ongoing negotiations between the Israelis and the Palestinians on the details of the declaration have "helped to demonstrate the kind of mutual stake they have in the agreement," these talks have not resulted in concrete changes on the ground, he admitted.

"Palestinians and Israelis alike are going to have to see a very different kind of future. They are going to have to see something on the ground that mirrors the promise that was built into the agreement," Mr. Ross stressed.

The Palestinians, for example, "are going to have to see that the IDF (Israeli army) withdraws. They are going to have to see the Palestinians begin to assume real responsibilities — the responsibility of self-government.... They are going to have a sense they are taking charge. They are going to have to see Palestinian leaders coming in and delivering on the promise of a different kind of future."

"The Israelis, too, must see positive changes come from the agreement with the Palestinians," Mr. Ross concluded — USIA.

## Kurds said to hand in video on copter downing

ANKARA (Agencies) — Iraqi Kurds said on Wednesday they had handed over a video recording of the shooting down of two American helicopters by U.S. fighters over northern Iraq.

"Some local commanders were touring the area when they happened to hear the helicopters," the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP)'s Ankara-based spokesman Saeifeen Dizayee said.

They had some camera equipment and started filming and recorded the whole incident," he said.

If these kinds of changes take place and "new realities" emerge, then the peace process can "compete far more effectively" with extremists, Mr. Ross said. At the same time, progress on the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations alone is insufficient to "discredit and isolate" extremism: "There also has to be progress on the other tracks... if in fact you are going to ensure a kind of irreversibility" in the peace process.

Mr. Ross opined that while the Israel-Jordan track has "moved somewhat slowly," the talks have indeed progressed: "What has evolved in the Israeli-Jordanian negotiation has been in effect a kind of step-by-step, incremental kind of progress." Thus, in addition to the common agenda initiated last September, Israel and Jordan have worked out agreements on banking, environmental problems that are common to both countries, and a sub-agenda on energy and water, he said.

On the Syrian-Israeli negotiations, Mr. Ross said the change in format from talks between full delegations to talks with just the heads of delegations have not generated any breakthroughs, but have nevertheless improved the character of the discussions. The discussions between Syria and Israel negotiators are now more flexible and problem-solving in nature, he said.

This improved format, coupled with positive statements on peace made by President Assad and Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, have created "some basis of hope, that we will in fact make real progress this year, on an agreement between Syria and Israel," Mr. Ross said.

Mr. Ross stressed that an important corollary to pushing for progress in the bilateral negotiations is the need for Arab states to make positive overtures towards Israel.

"It is also important that the Arab World reach out to Israel," he underscored. Positive moves towards Israel by Arab states will help convince the Israeli public that there is indeed "an historic opportunity that must not be lost," and give Israeli leaders the political space needed to reach agreements, he said.

While there has been some positive movement in this regard, such as Qatar's discussions with Israel on a natural gas deal, Mr. Ross said "we have not seen the Arabs prepared to make any moves in a legal and de jure sense on the boycott" of Israel.

Commenting on the U.S. role in the peace process, Mr. Ross said the United States is going to "work for progress in the negotiations, and also to try to generate Arab states' reaching out to Israel."

"We are going to keep at it. That is what is motivating us — the potential that should not be lost, an opportunity that should not be lost," Mr. Ross concluded — USIA.

would become the property of the investigating team," said Captain William Shaver.

Mr. Dizayee said the Kurdish team that filmed the attack was led by the KDP commander for the Aqrah region, General Ali Osman. They also filmed wreckage at the spot where one helicopter crashed, killed its 12 occupants.

Mr. Dizayee said he had not seen the video himself.

A 15-strong U.S. military team is at Incirlik investigating the circumstances of the attack in which two U.S. F-15 fighters shot down two U.S. Blackhawk helicopters, killing 26 people.

Among the dead were 15 Americans, five Kurds, three Turks, two Britons and a Frenchman.

U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry said last week that investigators are trying to determine if the airborne warning and control (AWACS) plane in charge of the operation had radio contact with the helicopters and warplanes, and if identification devices were working.

The remains of all the 15 Americans killed in the incident were returned to American soil Tuesday.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Gulf Air starting in-flight phone system

MANAMA (R) — The regional carrier Gulf Air has equipped its new Airbus 340s with in-flight telephones, the Bahrain-based airline said on Tuesday. The first of the six new A340s arrives in Oman on May 18, and the airline said two photo channels would be available to passengers in all classes. This would expand to six channels in the near future. The airline was also evaluating fitting its entire Boeing 767 fleet with phones. "This will make Gulf Air a leading airline in in-flight telephone facilities," it said. The service would soon be extended to include fax facilities, it added.

### Syria, South Africa discuss establishing ties

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syria and South Africa on Tuesday discussed the possibility of establishing diplomatic relations after decades of acrimony, the official Syrian Arab News Agency reported. It said Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharara discussed the issue with a visiting South African Foreign Ministry official, identified as Derek William Orth. Syria and the rest of the Arab World had long refused to have any dealings with South Africa, which maintains close relations with Israel. But ties have been gradually improving since the abolishment of apartheid and the launching of the Arab-Israeli peace process 2½ years ago.

### Algerian president meets Saddam envoy

TUNIS (R) — Algerian President Liamine Zeroual on Tuesday met a senior advisor to Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, the official Algerian APS news agency said. APS, monitored in Tunis, gave no further details about the meeting between Mr. Zeroual and Barzan Al Takriti. President Saddam has been sending envoys to Arab countries to try to win support for Baghdad's efforts to get the United Nations to ease or lift sanctions imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990.

### U.S. Cyprus envoy leaving amid deadlock

NICOSIA (R) — Robert Lamb, U.S. coordinator for Cyprus, is leaving his post amid indications the latest talks to make a dent in the island's division have deadlocked. U.S. diplomats told Reuters on Tuesday Mr. Lamb's resignation would be officially announced by the State Department and he was leaving for personal reasons. They were surprised Cyprus President Glafcos Clerides made the resignation public in remarks to reporters on Sunday. Mr. Lamb, eager to see an agreement on a U.N.-proposed package of confidence-building measures between the rival Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus, made lightening visits to the island trying to push the process forward. But Western diplomats feel the talks, to make a break in the near 20-year division of Cyprus are stalemated. The U.N. Security Council has called for an accord on the package before the end of April.

### Sudan fills top Parliament posts

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's military ruler Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir has appointed three politicians to top jobs in the unelected parliament, the Transitional National Assembly. The decree, read on state television on Tuesday, said Angelo Beda, a former governor of Equatoria State, was appointed deputy speaker while Ahmad Abdil Halim and John Angol were made leaders in the assembly. Mr. Beda replaces Aldo Ajo who last January left for Britain where he joined the National Democratic Alliance, an opposition group trying to topple the Bashir government. Mr. Abdil Halim replaces Abul Gasim Ibrahim Mohammad who was appointed governor of Kassala state last February. Mr. Angol takes over from Reverend Andrew Witu who resigned in March to devote his time to church activities.

**Jordan Times**  
Tel. 667171

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

07:00 ... Beirut (RJ)

08:00 ... Riyadh (RJ)

12:45 ... Dubai (EM)

21:05 ... Cairo (MS)

22:30 ... Istanbul (TK)

01:25 ... Amsterdam (KL)

#### DEPARTURES

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

07:00 ... Beirut (RJ)

11:20 ... Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)

12:45 ... Amsterdam, Chicago (KL)

13:00 ... Rome (RJ)

12:15 ... Paris (RJ)

12:30 ... London (RJ)

12:45 ... Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

13:00 ... Tokyo (RJ)

13:15 ... Sydney (RJ)

13:30 ... New Delhi (RJ)

13:45 ... Jakarta (RJ)

14:00 ... Aden (RJ)

14:15 ... Singapore (RJ)

14:30 ... Dhaka (RJ)

14:45 ... Cairo (RJ)

15:00 ... Jakarta (RJ)

15:15 ... Manila (RJ)

15:30 ... Seoul (RJ)

15:45 ... Tokyo (RJ)

# Home News

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## Majali bans smoking in public buildings

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Wednesday issued circulars banning smoking in government offices, urging reduction in electric power consumption, and requesting lists of government-owned vehicles to help in controlling their utilization for unofficial business.

Dr. Majali was briefed by Amman Mayor Mamdooh Al Abbadi on plans for developing the central regions of Jordan which include the governorates of Amman, Balqa and Zarqa.

The mayor also briefed the prime minister on the new plans which, he said, would be

implemented in cooperation with the municipalities in the three governorates.

He said support from the prime minister to the municipality would give momentum to the new plans.

In addition Wednesday, Dr. Majali visited the Foreign Ministry and discussed with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan Jordan's current endeavours to promote relations with foreign countries and measures to safeguard Jordanian citizens' interests abroad.

## Minister encourages private sector to take up role in boosting tourism

By Natasha Bukhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Privatisation is the key to strengthening tourism in Jordan to make it the country's most powerful economic revenue, said Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Adwan on Wednesday.

"The private sector assumes a leading role in developing tourism in the country and the government is working on eliminating its (the private sector's) inhibitions caused by distrust in legislation and lack of organisation," said Dr. Adwan in a meeting with several tourism industry businesspersons.

The minister told the group that Jordan has to utilise its "over 100,000 attraction sites" and make use of the country's "great fortunes," adding that the area is now recovering from the fallback of tourism that resulted from the Gulf war. He said that we have to equip ourselves to be able to meet with the present and future flow of tourists to the country.

Dr. Adwan said that the Ministry of Tourism is currently studying the Tourism Law, which he admitted, suffers from many lapses. He said the ministry plans to introduce articles that will improve the law and make the process of privatisation easier.

The ministry had introduced a draft agreement to privatise Royal Jordanian Airlines (RJ), which has been submitted for

debate to the Lower House of Parliament. The minister made assurances that many institutions will be privatised over the next two years, which, he said, gives the private sector the opportunity to help develop the country's economy and become part of Jordan's economic development plan.

According to Dr. Adwan, a new tourism draft law is needed, but amending the present legislation is the first step forward. He also urged the private sector to introduce proposals towards amending the law's articles.

"We have to work on eliminating the predominance of personal interests of different institutions, whether public or private, concerning the development of tourism," said the minister, stressing the need for cooperation between the government and the private sector to achieve the desired results.

"Healthy competition secures national interests, and personal conflicts are harmful to all," he concluded.

Participants expressed their general disapproval of the country's poor tourism facilities, saying that many improvements in services are required.

The minister said the reason behind inadequate services in the area of facilities lies behind the ministry's limited budget, adding that the private sector's financial contribution was necessary.

Dr. Adwan said that if the peace process succeeds, Jordan

will become a major attraction for tourists, but that the development of the industry in the country was not contingent upon the results of the peace talks and that Jordan is a strong and stable country that has proved its ability to stand up to all challenges. "We have nothing to fear, we are stronger than Israel," said the minister.

Fakhri Twal, one of the attendees, said that the Marriot's gross sales amount to \$7 million annually, and that such an amount proves the availability of financial assets in the country.

Commenting in response, the minister said that it was hard to convince some people that money spent is money earned.

Dr. Adwan said that he was very optimistic about the development of tourism in Jordan and added that if both the private and the public sectors utilise Jordan's resources properly, tourism will assume the leading role in the country's economic growth.

The lunch meeting, held at the Regency Palace Hotel, was organised by Skal Club in Amman. Skal is an international movement represented by Skal Clubs in 91 countries. The club's objectives are to develop "true friendship and common purpose among members of the tourism industry, as well as promoting mutual understanding and fostering goodwill between the peoples of the world through tourism."

## 37 teenagers recover from food poisoning

By Elias Nasrallah  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — All 37 teenage students from Mahebrah in the north Jordan Valley who Tuesday suffered a mild form of food poisoning were discharged from hospital Wednesday morning and are back at school, according to Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas.

The 37 girls, reported to have been complaining of nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea, were treated at Abi Obeida Hospital in the Wadi Al-Yabes. They were dis-

charged after being placed under observation for six hours, the minister told the Jordan Times Wednesday.

The girls had eaten canned meat which was not properly cooked and the excessively hot weather contributed to the girls' ailments, said Dr. Malhas. The canned meat is an item in the Ministry of Education's school food programme and was a gift to the ministry from non-governmental organisations that have been providing food assistance to the Kingdom's children, said the minister.

He said the canned food had been tested by the health ministry laboratories upon receipt and was found to be safe. He added that the ministry has sent a team to the school to examine the case and accurately determine the reason for the food poisoning.

Dr. Malhas said the ministry's laboratories are conducting additional tests on samples of the same canned meat and imposing stricter control over the school food programme to prevent any recurrence of the food poisoning incident.

Dr. Nahar Bani Han, the hospital director, said all the students are back at school.

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## Positive signals, future hopes

**THE REPORTED** acceptance by Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, of a negotiated settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict is a welcome development. The apparent shift in the movement's strategy was spelled out by one of Hamas's senior members, the head of its political bureau, Musa Abu Marzouq who is based in Damascus. It was confirmed yesterday by Hamas leaders in the occupied territories. Both Jordan and the U.S. received this development warmly.

This shift in the hardline Islamist group's thinking, which so far advocated a maximalist position, is an omen of goodwill not only for the Palestinian-Israeli track of negotiations but also for the wider Arab-Israeli, Muslim-Western conflict.

On the Palestinian-Israeli track, Hamas occupies a leading role both in the occupied territories, especially in Gaza, and among the Damascus-based Palestinian rejectionists, the so-called Alliance of Palestinian Forces that groups 10 factions.

If Hamas would join the negotiations that would certainly lead to reduced tension in the occupied territories, would strengthen Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's hand both in the Palestinian camp and in his quest for an accelerated process and would expose Israeli hardliners. What matters now is how Israel and the PLO would respond to the Hamas initiative. Any deal with Hamas now, either on the Israeli or on PLO behalf, would smoothen transition towards Palestinian self-rule and put to rest fears of imminent Palestinian infighting.

On the Arab front, any involvement of Hamas in the peace negotiations would lead to the mitigation of Islamists' ideologies especially in Lebanon, Egypt and Jordan. The Muslim Brotherhood movements in Egypt and in Jordan can only be expected to lend support to their Palestinian brothers. Likewise, Lebanon's Shi'ites will be watching to see if their fellow Islamists in Palestine would be wrestling Palestinian right from the Israelis through negotiations.

On the wider Muslim-Western front, Hamas's involvement in peace negotiations with Israel and by extension the U.S. will open a main channel of communication between Muslims and the West that can only lead to an enhanced understanding between the two.

We see in the development a precious opportunity that should be seized by the Palestinians, Arabs, Israelis and Americans. In light of that we see the response by the Jordanian government and the U.S. administration as positive signs the PLO and Israel should emulate.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Wednesday urged the Arab countries to end their sanctions and economic boycott of Iraq in light of the present international situation, which, he said, is most opportune for such a step. Tareq Masarweh said that the United States policies in the Middle East region have been deeply shaken following the downing of two helicopters and the death of U.S. allied military personnel and this should prompt the Arabs to seize the opportunity and think of ending their enmity towards Iraq that has suffered so much. The helicopters were shot down in the course of a U.S.-orchestrated plot against the Iraqi people and the Arabs should not allow this situation to continue, said the writer. Indeed, Washington's decision to conceal the identity of the military personnel killed in the incident points to the fact that they were important people involved in some kind of conspiracy that fell through, said the writer. He quoted U.S. senator Lee Hamilton as urging the U.S. administration to reconsider its position with regard to Iraq and said the Arabs should be the first to take serious steps to end the sanctions.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily came out in favour of a proposal submitted by Lebanon for ending the refugee problem on its territory. Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabil Berri and Foreign Minister Faris Buweiha have suggested that some of the Palestinian refugees be repatriated, especially if they have relatives and lands in the occupied Arab territories, that some of them be settled in Lebanon, especially if they have already established themselves there, and to get compensation, and others to be reunited with relatives abroad if they wish to do that, said Mahmoud Rimawi. The writer said while this suggestion is very reasonable, it is feared that the Israelis and their allies would seek to prevent any of the refugees from returning to their homelands and would strive to settle them abroad away from their original country and even the Arab World. The writer paid tribute to Lebanon for seeking cooperation with the other Arab states in settling the refugees issues in a manner that would be acceptable to all concerned parties and the refugees themselves.

## Higher education and the magical solution of fundraising

By Dr. Ahmad Majdoubah

AT A TIME when almost all our higher education institutions (both public and private) are experiencing serious financial difficulties and constraints, due to the economic hardship from which our society is presently suffering, fundraising seems to be (among other things of course) the magical solution.

During the "honeymoon" period of the seventies and early eighties, our higher education establishments (like our society at large) enjoyed an Indian summer of financial prosperity. The country had a great deal of money coming in, through foreign aid and through the massive force of Jordanian citizens working in the rich Gulf states, and the Jordanian dinar was very strong. We could afford then to spend a lot, sometimes quite lavishly. At the universities, for example, we came up with all kinds of ambitious ideas and plans and were able to put them to action overnight. We were then able to attract many noted scholars from abroad (virtually from any country in the world) and pay them well, to invite any distinguished visitor or lecturer whose name was suggested, to go to as many conferences and host as many as we saw fit, to buy sophisticated equipment of all sorts, to acquire any amount of books we desired, to subscribe to any number of journals and magazines we liked, to erect buildings and facilities of all kinds, to photocopy tonnes of material for our classes, etc. In short, we felt we could expand in any direction we deemed appropriate and implement any schemes we thought worth implementing: we had almost absolute power.

Today, the situation is entirely different. We have not only had to cut so many programmes and curtail so many activities but also to neutralise many others; many of our busiest centres and sections have in fact become symbolic, rapidly losing their momentum because of our inability to come up with the funds necessary to keep them alive. We can now afford to hire faculty members, for disciplines in which there are few or no Jordanian specialists, only from countries whose currencies have been devalued much more than the Jordanian dinar has (such as the former USSR, Iraq, Egypt, etc). We are having a truly tough time, for instance, recruiting native speakers of English to teach English language and literature courses; many of them left us in 1988 when the value of the dinar dropped sharply. We have a very limited budget for conference participation or conference hosting, and we are able to

subscribe only to a handful of specialised magazines and journals. We worry when a section of a course has been filled with students "to the rim" (because we cannot open a new section or divide that section into two, for we have no other rooms or lecture halls to use), and we worry when our xerox machines run out of ink or paper. The campus conditions are not tolerable, but they can be quite uncomfortable at times.

Clearly, this is a good news, bad news situation. The good news is that we have been forced to learn to be more careful with our spending. For everything we do now we try to get our money's worth at least. This is a blessing for in the honeymoon period we wasted a great deal of hard currency. And we have also become noticeably more cautious and efficient in planning programmes and activities and in carrying them out. The bad news is that we have become less experimental and more conservative in our overall approach, and we are unable to expand comfortably in directions in which we truly need to.

What is to be done? Well, one can think of many things, but the one thing I wish to highlight here is fundraising. The concept is clear to many, even though it is still somewhat foreign or alien to our society in its professional sense. Put simply, fundraising is the attempt to obtain funds in the form of donations from individuals or institutions in the public or private sector to help finance vital projects within an institution. The amount of money varies, depending on the nature of the programme or project, the economic strength of the country, and the generosity of the donor. It could be as little as \$5 or as much as \$5 billion. When I was a graduate student in the U.S., my alma mater decided, upon the request of many students, to build a more comfortable extension to the main library which would open 24 hours. The question was brought up at an alumni get-together (an event which incidentally, is almost entirely absent from our campus life); an alumnus wrote a check of the whole amount of cost, which was estimated at \$2 million. The other day, I read in The Chronicle of Higher Education (and in an alumni newsletter (and such news is not infrequent)) the following two news items: a) a U.S. university has received \$20 million from a private citizen; b) another U.S. university is planning to raise \$3 billion by the year 2,000.

Recently, we have had an interesting fundraising experience at Yarmouk University which, I believe, is worth spreading and fostering. The English Department at Yarmouk hosted an international conference on literature, linguistics, and transla-

tion from April 2 to 7. More than 80 participants attended, locally and from abroad. The conference committee, pursuing a suggestion by its head, approached several individuals and institutions in Irbid and in Amman for financial assistance, the budget allocated for this important activity being insufficient. As customary in such cases, some people apologised or declined politely; others expressed their willingness to chip in. Encouraged by the response of the latter, the committee doubled its efforts — calling people by phone, writing official letters to them, and making courtesy calls. The outcome was excellent. Some picked up part of the hotel bill, some covered the meal expenses, some donated bags, some hosted tours within the country, and some gave cash. The amount of money was humble, but it was very helpful. In the end, we were able to cover two thirds of the total expenses through fundraising. I am sure that some institutions in the country have had a similar experience, but I am also sure that many have not even heard of the idea.

The virtues of fundraising are manifold indeed. First of all, it caters for a specific need whenever such need arises. Secondly, it relieves the government from much financial worry, since most public university funds come from the government (especially during these difficult times). Thirdly, it creates within each institution a sense of self-reliance and confidence, and it enables the institution to spend the funds in the way it sees fit (with little interference from the government, an interference which can at times slow decisions). Fourthly, it gives the donors the chance to contribute to the realisation of crucial schemes and projects within the country, thus fostering their sense of belonging to the nation.

What we need to do, however, is in order to make fundraising more effective, is to formalise it, after we publicise it and adopt it of course. We ought to create within each university either an independent department or a section in the public relations department to take care of this important business. But we ought to be careful here. The people we choose for the task have to understand the idea and philosophy of fundraising (and if they do not, it could be explained to them), have to truly appreciate it and believe in it, and have to have dynamic personalities. Otherwise, we will end up with another symbolic department which exists in theory but not in practice.

Fundraising is a challenging, beneficial, rewarding, and fun activity. We are in dire need of it during these economically tough times. All our institutions can benefit from it.



## Democracy in Arab World essential for new era

By Dr. S. Farooq Hasnat and Dr. Mohammad Ajlani

ONE OF the chief occupations of the analysts as well as practitioners of politics in the Arab World rest with the issues of managing the affairs of their respective societies, i.e., on the techniques of contemporary requirements. The dominant involvement amongst them remains with that of sharing of power and the expansion of the decision-making apparatus. These alterations in a given society have to be fulfilled while remaining within the parameters of social and cultural values of a society. The main question, however, is that what are the genuine values and norms of an Islamic society and on what ground a political structure can be built, so that complex and tedious fundamentals can be effectively adjusted. In this article, we would attempt to answer some of these questions and would explain the dilemma of our communities as it exists in the present day debate on the matters of governance.

The Hashemites in Jordan have a special adoration for the human rights and have been striving for a suitable representative system for their society. It is, therefore, no surprise that it was the late King Abdullah who established a first representative parliament in 1929. Despite the problems that the Hashemites confronted, the process went on and in 1956 a multi-party system with free elections was arranged, by His Majesty King Hussein. Because of the weak state structure and strong parties based on tribal affiliations the system was disrupted and the experience could not work to its ultimate conclusion.

Having faith in democratic values, King Hussein once again set on course an elected body in 1989. At the end of its term, elections were held on party basis and the new representatives, with more vigour and expectations, set on course in 1993.

The Jordanian example provides the other Arab societies with a number of remedies to be applied in their respective communities. It has been proved beyond doubt that once appropriately planned, the divine Law provided for Ijtihad, where the consensus of opinion would become a chief source of law. Therefore, the essence of a democratic system is enshrined in the cultural and religious values of the Arab and Muslim societies. If the message of Shura is being ignored today, it is because of its omission by the ruling elite and the obstacles that were created by the

colonial administrators by hindering the progress of appropriate institution building.

It was after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire that the Arab societies began to venture into the institution building process. In 1918, King Faisal, the son of Sharif Hussein of Hijaz, for the first time in recent history introduced a representative assembly in Syria. With an enforcement of the French Mandate system, the process was set aside and it never got back on track again. Had it been allowed to function, it would have shown the way for other Middle Eastern societies and the complexion of the area could have been different.

The Hashemites in Jordan have a special adoration for the human rights and have been striving for a suitable representative system for their society. It is, therefore, no surprise that it was the late King Abdullah who established a first representative parliament in 1929. Despite the problems that the Hashemites confronted, the process went on and in 1956 a multi-party system with free elections was arranged, by His Majesty King Hussein. Because of the weak state structure and strong parties based on tribal affiliations the system was disrupted and the experience could not work to its ultimate conclusion.

In this context, we can site two glaring examples in the case of Pakistan and Iran. In these two Muslim countries, people were suppressed for a considerable period of time and the ability to conduct their responsibilities was undermined by the ruling elite. But the system created by the adhered class fell like a house of cards giving support to the possession of rights is as much important as that of performing the duties towards one's society. In essence, the real danger to the Arab and Muslim Nations is not as much from external sources but from internal underdeveloped institutions.

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Dr. Hasnat, who is a professor at the University of the Punjab, Pakistan, and Dr. Ajlani, who works at the University of Paris II, are visiting scholars at the Centre for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan. They contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.

## Clinton administration blocked from bringing peace to Bosnia

Siege on Gorazde example of West's impotence

By Tom Rasmussen  
The Associated Press

week's limited air strikes would persuade the Serbs to back off their attack on the "safe haven" and bring that negotiated settlement closer to reality.

But, while yielding to Western demands to pull back last month from the Bosnian Muslim-held capital of Sarajevo, the Serbs clearly were of no mind to do so in Gorazde, rejecting even appeals from their traditional allies, the Russians, to halt their attack.

Allied efforts to use at least a modest amount of air power were hindered by technical problems and poor weather. A British jet was shot down by the Serbs on Saturday.

"This is not Sarajevo. Sarajevo was a special case," Mr. Clinton said a little testily in seeking to explain why an ultimatum worked in one place but not in another.

"We can only do what we have the authority to do," he said, in a retort to critics.

But the decision to back away from more forceful military action only served to fuel criticism of Mr. Clinton's policy.

"By ruling out a more forceful military effort, the allies added to the appearance of indecisiveness and paralysis that has marked Bosnia policy from the outset."

"Somebody needs a game plan. The world is looking for the president of the United States to provide one," said Sen. Richard Lugar, senior Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, arguing that the allies need to act more aggressively in Bosnia.

Even Democratic Rep. Lee Hamilton of Indiana, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, wants more aggressive enforcement of the U.N. resolutions in Bosnia.

"I think we have to step up and make more effective what we've been trying to do through the U.N. and through NATO. I don't think we can tolerate the kind of actions we've had by the Serbs in recent days," said Mr. Hamilton.

The U.S. administration talked about "reclaiming the momentum" of the earlier Serb pullback from Sarajevo and the agreement of cooperation between the Bosnian government and the Croats.

But it was hard to find much momentum when things were either standing still or moving backward.

## Who bails out the Iraqi people

By Mohammad Mashriqah

The Iraqi regime and people seem to wield a special charming effect on Jordanian culture and cultural activities. This is clearly manifested in their direct influence on the political and cultural way of thinking of a large number of intellectuals, artists and writers in Jordan.

It has even been said that Jordanian intellectuals have contributed towards encouraging the Iraqi regime to pursue its excesses in matters related to democracy and human rights.

The Iraqi regime and its controlled media have been continually quoting Jordanian writings and articles which extend due support for Iraqi policies and practices on the internal and external fronts.

An observer of Jordanian intellectuals who produce superficial cultural work considers them as being no more than riff raff demagogues who place such topics as human rights, freedom and democracy at the bottom of their lists of priorities. Such writers normally express unlimited and unreserved support for the Iraqi regime and all its practices under the pretext of showing their enmity towards the "Zionist — imperialist" West. They normally regard critics of the Iraqi undemocratic regime as agents in the pay of the West and working for the Americans.

This closed-mindedness has characterised many of the Jordanian intellectuals whose voices drown those that call for reasoning and rationality and those who advocate the cause of pluralism, democracy and human rights. The voices of reason have thus been isolated and secluded in the face of intellectual intimidation vis-a-vis the onslaught of some intellectuals who are of the idea that one could either be for Iraq and all its policies or for the West and its arrogance.

The fact that thousands of Iraqi intellectuals have escaped to Jordan from that repressive regime and the silent moans expressing the catastrophe that befell the Iraqi people, culture and dream at the hands of the Iraqi regime seemed to have changed nothing in the stand of Iraqi supporters here.

### AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

Neither had the great works by Iraqi artists and painters, which expressed the true dimensions of the human tragedy that befell their nation and the internal destruction and loss of hope, drawn these intellectuals' attention.

The Iraqi art works displayed in Jordan had reflected the deep feeling of frustration, fear, repression, martyrdom and isolation — all expressing pain and a cry for help — but were misinterpreted by Jordanian critics and

intellectuals, who looked at them as some shade of abstract art or a childhood nostalgia.

One of these critics has described an exhibition by Iraqi artist Sadek Kawish as a new presentation of historical events standing out as a symbol of challenge and confrontation.

Last week, the Jordan Popular Theatre invited an Iraqi theatre group to perform at the Royal Cultural Centre.

The play entitled *The Bail* was produced by Abdul Karim Al Sudani and directed by Sami Abdul Hamid who had created a new trend in Iraqi theatre work in the 1950s with Yousef Sayegh through their modern theatre group.

In *The Bail*, which was basically classified as popular satire, the actors dared to reflect the producer's deep philosophical thinking, especially in matters that revolve around the transformations inside the human being and the effects of war on his behaviour and conduct.

The play reveals these changes in a person who is imprisoned without any justification and spends 25 years of his life in jail. When the time comes for him to be released he is asked to provide a bail and a guarantor so that he would be freed from his cell. But he discovers that everything and everybody has changed and that none of his old friends is willing to provide the bail to the court so he can be discharged.

In this manner, the play seeks to expose the realities

in the Iraqi society which has suffered a great deal from wars and "free adventures" that adversely affected its human values stripping man from his humanitarian feelings.

When the jailer tries to persuade the prisoner's family to sign the bail document to ensure the discharge, the whole household pervades with an atmosphere of extreme horror.

The prisoner's girl friend, who, he believes, is still waiting for him, denies she knows the man because she has been transformed, through the influence of "the man in power" into a prostitute running a brothel.

The prisoner discovers that his friend, the intellectual and philosopher, has been locked in a lunatic asylum and finds him delivering a lecture in philosophy to a collection of shoes and pitchers and pots. He also discovers his cousin, who has become a senior official, unable to remember him because he is lost in his work amid telephone calls, the voices of his advisers and the great many orders he issues here and there.

The whole group of actors then burst out shouting: "Who can rescue the Iraqi people and who can bail them out of this terrible jail where they have been incarcerated without any cause or committing any crime or offence... Who can rescue society from destruction and disintegration and fear, and who can reestablish the original laws of nature?"

The play was performed for more than 10 days in Amman but the audience was a restricted number of intellectuals and critics, as reported by the popular theatre director Fathi Abdul Rahman.

In Abdul Rahman's view, the biggest irony came in the reactions to the play by the critics, who were confined themselves to the technical aspects in directing the play and the play's satirical nature.

A critic, whispering in the ear of the director Sami Abdul Hamid, accused him of presenting a performance that was considered an offence to Iraq and its people who live through very difficult circumstances.

It looked as though the Jordanian intellectuals have expressed their determination to forge the facts by boycotting this daring performance which has truly demonstrated the bitter realities which were expressed by Iraqi artists themselves.

## BOOK REVIEW

### The 'rhetoric of political discourse'

For Palestine

Edited By Jay Murphy  
Writers And Readers Publishing, New York 1993

Unashamedly partisan in its approach, this book starts with a chronology which traces the history of Palestine in outline from the arrival of the Ottoman Turks in the 16th century and follows it with a very uneven collection of articles, interviews, poems, stories and statistics which, in their diversity, reflect the fragmentation of Palestinian opinion and objectives. The useful notes and bibliography make it clear that most, if not all, of the material has been previously published elsewhere.

Among the familiar contributors are Edward Said, protesting in a 1991 interview against the bias of Western opinion in any context involving the Palestinians; Hanan Ashrawi, explaining the difficulty of negotiating as part of a team which has no governmental support or standing; Noam Chomsky, in an interview with Jay Murphy in which he is highly critical of American official attitudes, as contrasted with public opinion, towards the Palestine problem ("for years the population [of the U.S.] has been two-to-one in favour of a Palestinian state, but that has no reflection whatever in the political system; in fact there is no expression of that view"), and in a closely argued "Afterword", in which he exposes the hypocrisy of the language in which American policy is expressed.

To understand what is going on, writes Chomsky, we must begin by "translating the rhetoric of political discourse into English": "rejectionists" means in fact those who reject U.S. demands; "Pragmatists" are those who reject the rights of the Palestinians — and so on. Chomsky goes on to list in compelling detail the successive occasions, from the Jarring missing in 1971 until the abortive "peace process" inaugurated in Madrid in 1991, on which the United States supported Israel in frustrating each attempt to devise a solution which would be acceptable to the Palestinians — even when it had overwhelming international approval.

The collection stops short of the Oslo Accords and so is unaffected by the short-lived breeze of optimism of last autumn. Most of the contributors deal in one way or another with the painful experiences of the Palestinians in a quarter of a century of occupation by a relentless enemy. In this context, one of the most effective essays is the one in which Nasser Aruri writes of "The Palestinians' Travails in the Last Decade," with particular reference to the Gulf War and its after-effects for the Palestinians. It is followed by a moving piece by Jean Genet titled "Four Hours In Shatila" and another on "The Siege Of Beirut", taken from an interview with a Palestinian woman by Hilton Obenzinger, the American editor of *Palestine Focus*.

The book would be more interesting if the diversity of the authors reflected more differences in attitude and approach. In particular, it seems surprising that there are no Israeli contributors, especially now that so many have stood up to criticise the actions of their government. A few of them, like Danny Rubinstein and A.B. Yehoshua, are quoted by others, but the voices of such brave figures as Israel Shahak, Tom Segev, Boaz Evron and others like them are not recorded here. Even if they have had little effect in moderating Israeli attitudes towards the Palestinians, they deserve to be remembered for what they too have tried to do for Palestine — Middle East International.

Michael Adams

## Schindlers List: Don't they see ghosts?

By Mariam M. Shakim

THE recent ban on the screening of the movie *Schindler's List* in Jordan has created a heated debate about freedom of information and cultural interaction in the Kingdom.

Granted that most of the on-going discussions about the merits of showing or not showing the movie have taken place in the living rooms of the upper class and the intelligentsia, a debate about the merits of getting to know "the other" has finally begun.

Instead of asking whether the movie should or should not be shown in Jordan, I would rather like to ask if *Schindler's List* is really just about "the other" — i.e.: merely a story about Jewish suffering as interpreted by director/producer Steven Spielberg?

The vast majority of Jordanians and Palestinians that I have talked to have branded *Schindler's List*, as nothing more than another attempt to stir up the guilt feelings of the West over its treatment of Jews generally and during the holocaust particularly. This, argue most people, has little to do with the Arab-Muslim World where Jews, by and large, lived in relative harmony for most of their history.

Most people, justifiably, argue that the Arabs should not pay for Western racism against Jews and that the displacement of the Palestinians and the creation of Israel came about as a direct result of European persecution of Jews — Theodor Herzl, himself believed so.

The release of *Schindler's List* coincided with the Hebron Massacre. It also coincided with the ethnic cleansing in Bosnia. With this in mind many Arabs ask why past crimes against humanity are still being re-enacted.

phasised as if they occurred yesterday while on-going crimes are treated merely as "news".

A few scenes from *Schindler's List*, however, show how, if looked at through an unfiltered eye, the movie is about the present as well as the past — about all people. About Jewish suffering and Jewish crimes.

One of the opening lines in the movie shows a middle class Jewish woman filing a complaint against the Nazis for having been thrown out of her home. "They told me it was no longer my home — they said it now belongs to an SS officer," she tells a bureaucrat at the Jewish information bureau. The bureaucrat, a fellow Jew conscientiously fills out a form of complaint.

While my eyes may be filtered, I saw in this scene the story of thousands of Palestinians that I know who were evicted, chased or scared out of their homes — never to be able to return — their homes are now someone else's.

In another scene, the belongings of Polish Jews, their suitcases, their heirlooms and their photographs are sifted through and evaluated by the Nazis after their owners were sent off to die in concentration camps.

Again I saw the furniture, the cutlery, the worldly belongings of Palestinians left behind and taken by others. But here the takers were Jews not Nazis, who "just moved in."

In yet another scene well-to-do Jews are herded into camps with other less fortunate compatriots. In their camps or ghettos they become equals — only shadows of their former selves. Teachers and learned men and women become factory workers. As a group or race the Jews are forbidden from owning land or investing.

How many of us have listened for hours as refugees tell us of the wealth and prosperity they had left behind

to become numbers in refugee camps — not concentration camps granted — but camps nevertheless? How often have we heard how Palestinians all over the Arab World and of course those left behind in their homeland cannot buy land, invest directly or be equal to others?

Watching *Schindler's List* is a moving experience about what could be the fate of any people anywhere in a totalitarian environment where racism reigns supreme. In 1994 we live these scenes everyday. The "desired" concepts and methods of ethnic cleansing and a racially pure environment have not really changed.

In *Schindler's List* I saw what anyone growing up in the Judeo-Christian West has seen all their lives — the reminder of the suffering of Jews during the Nazi era. But I also saw something much closer and more contemporary — legitimised and institutionalised racism and ethnic cleansing in Palestine, Bosnia and South Africa to name just a few.

For Arabs it is important to see *Schindler's List* to remind them that their own suffering at the hands of Israel and others is not exclusive. For Israelis with any insight the sight of refugee camps will remind them of the ghetto; the racist law, "for Jews only", will remind them of the signs that said "no Jews allowed", the brutality of many of their clean cut soldiers and some of their moral guides should remind them of the Aryans who tried to destroy the Jews for being "less worthy", or "less chosen" than themselves.

And for all those living in what Israelis call "beautiful old Arab houses", *Schindler's List* should be a reminder of the ghosts one sees when living in someone else's home.

Mariam M. Shakim is on the staff of the Jordan Times.

## In Kentucky's tobacco country, old ways die hard

By Vicki O'Bannon  
Reuter

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky — Ray Allan Mackey grows tobacco in south central Kentucky with his father, who worked the same land and grew the same crop — as did his father before him.

Old habits die hard in tobacco country. More than 34 per cent of Kentucky's teenagers smoke, compared to a U.S. average of just under 12 per cent. They also use snuff and chewing tobacco at a rate seven times the national average.

But new ideas are sprouting in the country's second largest tobacco-growing state, where more than 78,000 farms grow tobacco across the green-quilted

countryside.

School children in Louisville are coming home with textbooks teaching them in blunt detail about the death and disease associated with smoking. The product and the habit are under attack as never before.

In Washington, more curbs on cigarette smoking — perhaps even a ban — are being discussed. A television network has alleged that one manufacturer "spiked" tobacco products to increase nicotine dependence — a charge denied.

A great deal of money is at stake. Federal, state and local governments collect more than \$12 billion a year in excise taxes on tobacco — roughly four times the

annual farm value of the U.S. crop.

For people like the Mackeys, tobacco is a way of life that begins in spring with the back-breaking hand setting of tender plants and ends in aromatic autumn auctions. Like many of their neighbours they grow tobacco along with wheat, corn, beans, beef and pork.

In 1993 that patchwork of farms produced 29 per cent of the U.S. tobacco crop. "Everybody has a tobacco crop and a few cows and hogs," said the younger Mackey. "Per acre, tobacco returns more than any other crop," he said.

"It was one of seven children and my entire family went to the tobacco market together. Most of us had

taken part, one way or another, in crop preparation," he recalled.

"At the end of the year a lot of folks are looking for extra Christmas money. Taxes, land and property payments and the end-of-the-year bills all come due about the same time the tobacco check comes in."

The U.S. government decides how much tobacco is grown, based on how much the companies say they intend to buy. Quotas were cut by 10 per cent each for the 1993 and 1994 growing seasons.

"The decision is not whether we're going to grow tobacco but who will grow and who will produce it and how they will be rewarded," Mr. Mackey said.

His daughter, like other parochial school children in Louisville, uses a programme called "the unpuffables" developed by the University of Minnesota and designed

to instill in fifth graders the hazards of smoking through a textbook filled with adventure stories and games.

The Louisville school system, the state's largest public school district, also plans to use the programme.

A recent U.S. surgeon general's report on smoking called it an "adolescent addiction" that usually begins around the age of 14. Now the lifestyle followed for generations by people like the Mackeys could be altered not only by public pressure against cigarette smoking but even by school officials in their own state who think they have a chance to break the cycle before a new smoker takes the first puff.

"I don't want my kids to start smoking. My daughter asked me to try and quit and I am going to do that... I'm going to work at it," he said.

His daughter, like other

parochial school children in Louisville, uses a programme called "the unpuffables" developed by the University of Minnesota and designed

to reveal ingredients used in making cigarettes.

It said that a list of commonly used cigarette ingredients, as well as information about those ingredients, has been routinely given to the government for over a decade.

But it said the list was confidential and it could not confirm the presence of any particular substance on the list.

Department of Health and Human Services spokesman Victor Zonana also said he could neither confirm nor deny the National Public Radio (NPR) report since the government has kept secret a list of

the ingredients used to make cigarettes.

NPR said it had obtained a list of 13 ingredients on the 1992 list, the most current version, and analysed them with the help of outside experts and scientific databases.

It identified one chemical, methoprene, as a pesticide used to kill insects on stored tobacco and said another, sclareol, can react with other chemicals to produce convulsions.

Because they are not regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the cigarette makers can use those ingredients.

NPR said some of the chemicals were extremely obscure, and it was not known at what doses they could be harmful to humans.

The report quoted Congressman Ron Wyden, a Democrat of Oregon, as saying, "cigarettes contain ingredients so toxic that you could not dump them in a landfill under the federal environmental laws."

Toxicologist Barry Rumack said, "what we do not know with these chemicals is... what their concentration is in the final product, and we additionally don't know what combination of these chemicals are safe."

The Tobacco Institute, the industry umbrella organisation, said all cigarette ingredients were thoroughly reviewed by industry and outside scientists. "At the level used, the ingredients

are in that final product... We do not know what the effects would be on a human being."

But toxicology consultant John Frawley, who has done work for tobacco companies, told NPR he has studied cigarette ingredients exhaustively and concluded "each and every one of the ingredients that are added to cigarettes are safe."

NPR said other experts criticised the secrecy of the list, and called for public research and scrutiny. A congressional panel, led by California Democrat Henry Waxman, is also looking into the secrecy issue.

The Tobacco Institute, the industry umbrella organisation, said all cigarette ingredients were thoroughly reviewed by industry and outside scientists. "At the level used, the ingredients

## The do-it-yourself computer

By Jean-Claude Elias

More un-branded personal computers (PC) are being assembled in Jordan everyday. In addition to saving about 30 per cent of the initial cost, the buyer benefits from a configuration that is exactly tailored to his needs in terms. The operation is usually done by professionals.

The phenomenon has grown to the point that many amateur users now consider acquiring the separate components and doing the assembly themselves, at home. What attracts the amateurs in this case is not only the financial saving but also the experience, the pleasure and the added knowledge they can get from such an undertaking. Knowing exactly where the memory chips go, where the hard disk connector can be found, etc... brings great satisfaction to the technically oriented user.

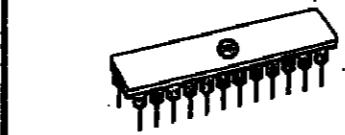
To the question "Is assembling a PC a difficult task?" The answer is a straight "no". It is not. But to the question "Can anybody, with no technical background at all, do it?" the answer is also a clear "no". What are the different components to gather in view of assembling a PC and what does it exactly take to do it successfully?

The typical shopping list would include 12 items, the first nine being: The cabinet, or casing — the power supply unit — the mother board — the main processor chip — the memory chips — the multi Input/Output controller — the display controller — the floppy disk drives and last but not least, the hard disk drive. The last three items, namely the keyboard, the monitor or screen and the mouse, do not need to be assembled. They come ready to be used and connect very easily to the computer, like a cassette deck to an audio amplifier.

Choosing the correct above items can sometimes be a painful business. Let's assume for the sake of simplicity that the user has been past this stage and that the assembly itself can start now. The job requires very little knowledge of mechanics for every unit fits in prepared slots. A few screws is all it takes to secure everything in place.

The tricky part is the connection of the internal

### chip talk



cables. There are of two types: Power cables that channel electricity to the different units and data cables that channel the data. To facilitate the work, the connectors, whether electric or data, are well designed physically. They all have different sizes and are not symmetrical. In other words, you cannot connect a power cable instead of data cable, and vice versa of course. There is also no risk in mounting the connectors upside down since there is no symmetry in their physical construction.

There are still some chances left for mistakes. In the best case, your PC will run partially — or at all. In the worst, you can cause permanent damage to some components. Since electric power is involved, the risk of electrocution, like with any appliance, should not be taken lightly.

If the job doesn't scare you but you feel you do not have the necessary information to do it, ask around, chances are that someone you know has done it before you and will be more than happy to help and ... show how clever he has been. The operation should take less than two hours and the only tools you will need are a pair of screw drivers (one blade, and one Philips) and the simplest possible voltmeter.

Owning a PC you have assembled yourself is not only good for your ego but will make any future upgrade easier and cheaper. You need a bigger hard disk drive or a new CD-ROM drive? Just go to the nearest computer shop, buy the drive, get back home and install it in less than 15 minutes.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuaqir

### HOWLERS

- Newspapers are useful for reporting calamities such as deaths, marriages, etc.
- A skyscraper is an over-trimmed hat; it is a large telescope.
- Etiquette is the noise you make when you sneeze.
- A fort is a place to put men in; a fortress is a place to put women in.
- Dust is mud with the juice squeezed out.
- Snoring is letting off sleep.
- Cheese is butter gone bad.
- A widow is a wife without a man.

### LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

#### SIGNS AT THE AIRPORT

Airport terminal	Mujamma al marta.
Departures	Rihlat al mughadara.
Arrivals	Rihlat wassool.
Entrance	Dukhool.
Exit	Khoroj.
Airline offices	Makatib sharikat tayarun.
Information desk	Maktabat int'l'umat.
Luggage	Amni'a.
Police	Al-sherfa.
Passports	Al-jawazat.
Customs	Al-jam'iyyat.
Lounge	Al-khathraha.
Duty free shop	Al-souqat harra.
Refreshments	Murabitat.
Souvenirs	Hadaya tashkeya.
Flights	Ar-rifiyat.
Gate No. 7, 8, 10.	Bawwaba raqam sab'a, thamaniya, sehra.
Transit	Al-nahriyya.
Foreigners	Al-anbiyya.
Smoking is prohibited	At-tadhibun minn al-kifaya.
Way out	At-tareeq il-khalij.
Money exchanges	Sarrfaqa.
Banks	Banook.
Mosque	Masjid.

### TIME FOR FUN

- \* Two boys camping out in a back-garden wanted to know the time, so they began singing at the tops of the voices. Eventually a neighbour threw open his window and shouted down at them: "Hey! Less noise! Don't you know what the time is? It's three o'clock."

\* \* \* \* \*

- \* A very grand lady made her very first visit to a post office. Previously one of her servants had always gone for her. But on this occasion curiosity got the better of her, and in she went to purchase a postage stamp. Gazing at the small gummed piece of paper she said haughtily to the clerk: "Have I got to stick this on myself?"

"No, lady", came the reply. "You stick it on the envelope!"

\* \* \* \* \*

- \* A man just released from prison was so elated after five years behind bars that he ran down the street shouting, "I'm free!" and a small boy on the corner said, "So what — I'm four!"

## The Wizard of Oz

By E. Yaghi

Once a strange looking man came to a campus centred in the middle of olive trees and black dates. He, being poetic, insisted on delivering a lecture to linguistic students of the faculty of arts, near the ruins of an ancient temple which happened to be a short distance from the university. He sat upon a tumbled column of the bygone days of antique splendor and as the wind from the north played chaos with his hair, tried in vain to settle the blonde and gray curls that tended to go every which way. At first some students who thought themselves versed in the dress of Ozian people almost laughed when the Wizard appeared, for indeed, he did look different from them. On the other hand, Wizard almost laughed too, but not quite, for he, being wise, possessed a universal tolerance knowing that each culture is entitled to have its own identity even if a lot of it is borrowed.

The students gathered around Dr. Wizard and sat on the wild grass that spread itself carpet like throughout the area. Nearby, some lavender wind flowers nodded their heads as the mystic man spoke of strange yet wonderful things. "I have come," said he, "to speak to you about linguistics and in particular about an essence called discourse."

He picked up a dry olive branch and walked over to a cracked stretch of ground where using the twig as a pen drew pictures in the dirt. And as he drew, he began to tell his audience about all the magical ways of those people who lived in isolated Gilead villages and how their lives were not only unique but better than the lives of the city dwellers. "City dwellers," he stated in his mild yet phonetically clear tone, "have done away with cooperating and helping each other and have become like the Ozians, competitive. Go to your villages in the north and south and there you will find the secret of living, for these communities are small and each man's existence depends on his fellow man. You city dwellers have adopted the competitiveness of Ozians and have become fragmented. Individualism is good up to a certain point but when being individual means only to get ahead in the world by stepping on the heads of others, then the process of fragmentation sets in."

A few students ignored Dr. Wizard, but most sat perfectly still, forgetting about his strange dress and appearance, immersed in his speech. The clear blue sky of Gilead hung like a pale umbrella over the heads of

the congregation and the pale yellow orb of a sun gently radiated warmth. Some sea gulls soared overhead and then grouped themselves in the shape of an arrow and flew away perhaps towards Oz. Dr. Wizard continued his discussion saying, "at the university, you speak a different dialect than you do at home. And at the university, you act differently too. Often, you use your education as a means of confrontation through competition. You must remember that when you imitate the people of Oz, you also adopt their problems. In the land of Oz, there are many big cities, technically advanced, but there is little cooperation among the people so as a result, there is a lot of poverty, because each man is out for himself and cares little about the welfare of others. You, my friends, can use your education in two ways, either as a means of getting ahead and competing or as a means of helping and improving your country. It is up to you to decide."

The olive branch fell to the ground while Dr. Wizard's hazel eyes penetrated deep into his audience. Not a creature stirred, not even the honey bees or crickets, not even a field mouse. Even the windflowers stood at attention. The youth almost looked hypnotised until Dr. Wizard concluded his speech with, "Tomorrow, my chariot is taking me back to Oz. But really, I've had the nicest visit. Remember, what impressed me most was not your imitation of Ozians, but your close-knit families, your concern for one another and your love of children. Don't be so eager to change and cherish the good things you have."

A messenger approached him bearing a silver chalice of red mulberry ale. Dr. Wizard accepted the drink and swiftly gulped down the beverage in two or three swallows, then he clutched his little black headpiece that looked like an elf's hat, pulled it on over his gray and blonde curls, said to the pondering students a "farewell, nice talking to you," took one last look at his surroundings and turned and left the tumbled ancient ruins, slowly marching over the same road that conquering armies once had driven their men and steeds. He vanished forever when he climbed over the crest of Solomon's Temple. Some thought they spied a distant flutter of winged horses rising up to the clouds. After waiting a few moments as if he would return, the students of linguistics in the land of Gilead trudged back to their other lectures thinking about what Wizard had said and puzzling over what he meant about individuality, competition and fragmentation.

## JTV CHANNEL 2

### WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, April 21

7:30 The Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air  
7:45 Gillette World Sports Special

8:30 Da Beat's On

9:10 Bonny

Take The Money

A stripper is hired by a bank robber to assist in an operation; before long, the robber learns she is in London with a suitcase full of stolen money.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie of the week

The Last Bastion

The historical events following the German entry into Poland in 1939, which was followed by Britain and Australia entering the war... and we witness General MacArthur's arrival in Australia to lead the allied forces.

Friday, April 22

8:00 Sixty Minutes

9:10 Scene Of The Crime To Make Amends

One-half of a twin sister fakes her own death in a car accident in order to implicate a man she had loved for years, and who had rejected her.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Black Powder

Abu Adel reaches a compromise which gets him back to work; and Abu Salma is forced to leave his land, despite his objections.

Saturday, April 23

7:45 Charlie Chaplin

A programme featuring some of Chaplin's best silent movies.

11:10 Top Cops

Tuesday, April 26

7:45 Medicinal Drugs

Moving Targets

An undercover policeman sets off to kill hookers while he's off duty; saving men from falling prey to such women becomes his strongest obsession.

Way-Off Broadway

Dana tries herself in acting in school; Carol and Frank quarrel over "major" things. Who does the most lying?

11:10 The Upper Hand

The Old Girl Network

Caroline's jealousy is kindled with the arrival of her friend, Trish, to stay with her... with eyes fixed on Charlie.

Monday, April 25

7:45 Science World

8:30 The Nanny

Nuchship

Maggie's father agrees that she goes out on a date with Eddie, on condition that the nanny chaperons them.

8:55 Jordanesque

Churches In Jordan

A comprehensive look at the start of Christianity in Jordan. Jordanesque is hosted by Jeries Samawi.

9:10 Pandora's Box

The Engineers Plot

A documentary about the former Soviet Union... the shift from an agricultural state to an industrial one, with the help of technology.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Black Powder

Abu Tawfiq, makes an engagement announcement which requires compulsory employment. To the Soviets those were times of terror.

11:10 Top Cops

Tuesday, April 26

7:45 Medicinal Drugs

Moving Targets

8:30 Step By Step

7:45 Great Moments In Science and Technology

8:30 Too Close For Comfort

An innocent kiss from a sweet young girl that lies on Henry's face sets Muriel on fire.

9:05 The Best Of Magic

9:30 The World Of The Thirties

The Stalin era in the former Soviet Union: he rules with absolute power, applying his reform programme which requires compulsory employment. To the Soviets those were times of terror.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Poldark

Elizabeth yearns to go back to Ross following her husband's betrayal; but Ross is worried about Demilia's pregnancy; could he be the father of her baby?

By Daniel  
The Asso...

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year-old kid  
really develo...

Walter and Gwen come  
across a man with a strange  
hobby: Carrying too many  
different names, and mar-  
rying too many wives.

John is in the spotlight, and  
gossips surround him as he  
is seen in the company of a  
beautiful young woman.



## Verdi biography gives new details of romantic life

By Daniel J. Wakin  
The Associated Press

**ROME** — A major new biography of Giuseppe Verdi has resuscitated the breath of scandal surrounding the composer's private life.

**Verdi:** A biography, by Mary Jane Phillips-Matz, seems to suggest that the great man's mistress bore him an out-of-wedlock child.

"It's like a father hearing his daughter is pregnant from the newspaper," he said.

**Parma.**

Mayor Giorgio Cavitelli of Busseto, a town of 7,000 people near Parma, said reports about the book produced a "certain perplexity" among the townsfolk.

"It's like a father hearing his daughter is pregnant from the newspaper," he said.

The director of the National Institute For Verdi Studies, Pierluigi Petrelli, called the biography "scandal-mongering" in a newspaper interview.

That has ruffled feathers in Verdi's hometown of Busseto and among scholars in Italy, even though the author pointedly says there is absolutely no proof Verdi was the father.

"Then why make up this story? Why plant a bug in the ear?" said Gustavo Marchesi, a Verdi scholar in

to me," the author said in a recent telephone interview from New York.

"You have a man who is a colossus of the theatre, a deputy in the first Italian parliament, a senator, a leader of copyright reform, a generous donor to charity, and a major figure in the Risorgimento, she said.

"All that I can wish is that he be remembered for these things."

Published last fall by Oxford University Press, the biography received prominent and generally favourable reviews in the New York Times, Newsday and the New Republic, among other publications.

Reviewers praised Ms. Phillips-Matz for scrupulous research, objectivity and

command of a sea of material, while noting a reluctance to interpret her sources or explore the relationship between Verdi's life and music.

The book sheds new light on matters such as Verdi's circle, early life in Busseto, ancestry and career as a politician and philanthropist.

It is bound to have an impact on our understanding of the life as well as the music that is at the heart of the contemporary operatic repertory," New York Times critic Edward Rothstein wrote.

And virtually all who have commented about the out-of-wedlock child episode have expressed admiration for Ms. Phillips-Matz's research and accom-

plishment.

Verdi's relationship with soprano Giuseppina Strepponi began several years after Verdi's first wife and two children died, and the couple eventually married.

The author has found documents that a baby girl named Santa Strepponi was left at a hospital in Cremona in April 1851. Ms. Phillips-Matz cites the following to support the theory the child was Strepponi's.

There is the similarity of names. Strepponi had a past of bearing and abandoning illegitimate children. The child was adopted by long-time acquaintances of the Verdi family. Verdi's fame and attitudes of the time precluded his acknowledging any such child.

Verdi's "complete contempt" for the scandal-wag-

ging tongues of Busseto and his strong desire to have a daughter after the earlier tragedy argue against the theory, said Julian Budden, whose three-volume *The Operas Of Verdi* is considered a classic.

He also cites a letter to Verdi written by Strepponi in 1853: "We will not have children (since God) is punishing me for my sins by preventing me from enjoying any legitimate joy before I die." Ms. Phillips-Matz also quotes the line.

Marchesi said it was unlikely that only a month after giving birth, Strepponi would have taken a long, difficult journey to Florence, as she did.

Ms. Phillips-Matz places her suggestion about Santa Strepponi in the context of a series of difficulties for Ver-



**Giuseppe Verdi**

Rugantino, the French and Italian conductor, and the political activist Verdi, in previous years, may concentrate on the world of the family, undermined by passion.

But Rothstein, the music critic, does.

"In fact, a major stylistic change may have accompanied Verdi's personal crisis of the early 1850s," he wrote in his review. The operas of that period,

## On Deadly Ground focuses on the environment

### Steven Seagal stresses human responsibility to nature

By Cho Yoon-Jung

So much attention is focused on action star Steven Seagal's martial arts prowess that it is easy to forget his latest film, *On Deadly Ground*, is actually about the environment.

Set in Alaska, it is the story of the Eskimos and the damage done to their environment when an oil company moves in to start drilling. Seagal plays Forest Taft, an oil rig worker who learns of his company's plans to despoil the landscape and joins the native Inuit people in their protest.

The film called for blizzards, explosions, oil fires, dogfights and horse chases. It was a high risk project in

which Seagal did all his own stunts except one explosion scene.

"The real story of the movie is about human beings and their responsibility to each other and to Mother Nature," Seagal said at a news conference in Seoul. "We need to stop destroying the planet before we reach the point where it becomes irreversible. It is a subject very important to me."

It was a subject so important to him that Seagal was motivated to direct and produce the movie himself, as well as star in it, of course. He explained, "I didn't want anyone to whitewash the subject or mess it up."

Contrary to expectations,

Seagal says that the roles of actor, director and producer were not in conflict and did not present any problems as he is used to having a lot of control over any project he works on.

Seagal's debut as a director has been a triumph with *On Deadly Ground*, co-starring Michael Caine and Joan Chen, currently at the top of the box-office charts in the United States. It is set for release in Korea this April and he is particularly keen to see it do well in Asia, where he has many fans.

Asia is the centre of the martial arts, which are as close to his heart as the environment. Standing over 6 feet and hair in its habi-

tual ponytail, Seagal does not look anything like the typical petite martial arts master. His skill has been amply demonstrated, however, in such films as *Hard To Kill* and *Under Siege*.

Seagal's fascination with martial arts began at the age of seven and led him eventually to Japan where he spent 15 years mastering the art of aikido and going on to become the only non-Asian to establish his own school in Tokyo.

For him, it is much more than a sport. "It is a spiritual thing which gives me an advantage in terms of developing discipline and skills applicable to my everyday life and ambitions."

Planet Hollywood is a family restaurant inspired by the world of film. The interior is designed to resemble a movie set, hand-painted sets above the walls, and the stars in the flesh adorn the seats. At least, they do in New York and Hollywood. The owners are three of Seagal's action star contemporaries — Bruce Willis, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Sylvester Stallone — and producer of *Sophie's Choice* Kiefer Sutherland.

The Seoul operation is a joint venture with local movie company Samho Film and will feature Korean film memorabilia and Korean films on video — Korea Newsreview.



**Steven Seagal**

## Record producer recreates Beatles sound for film

By Susan Zeidler  
Reuter

**NEW YORK** — When faced with the job of recreating the music of the early Beatles for a new film about the fab four, electric record producer Don Was sought the advice of a renowned expert on the subject — Ringo Starr.

In fact, *Granberry Pictures' Backbeat* does not feature songs written by the Beatles. It details the early days of the fab four before they became the Beatles.

The film, to be released early April, features rock'n'roll songs covered by the Beatles in Hamburg in 1961, when they were not yet performing their own

into what they would later become," said Was, who has produced Grammy-award winning albums for singer Bonnie Raitt and the B-52s band and has worked with dozens of other stars including Ringo Starr.

Was heeded Ringo's advice while producing the soundtrack and the result is a record which captures the raw spirit, rather than the exact sound of the developing Beatles.

To try to duplicate the Beatles exactly would have

been a mistake. You'd have something that is the opposite to the essence of rock'n'roll. It would be very studied and controlled," he said.

The soundtrack, released by Virgin Records in March, includes golden oldies covered by the Beatles which include Long Tall Sally, Bad Boy, Twist And Shout and Good Golly Miss Molly.

To attain the spontaneity of the young Beatles, Was, one of the most diverse and respected producers in the music business, recruited musicians from top rock

bands who had never before recorded together.

"We got a few musicians who hadn't really played or recorded together before and put some serious time constraints on ourselves, just to keep it spontaneous," he said.

"We tried to go with the first few takes and not work them to death."

Members of the Backbeat band include Dave Grohl from Nirvana on drums. Mike Mills from R.E.M. on bass and back-up vocals, and guitarists Thurston Moore and Don Fleming from Sonic Youth and

Gumball, respectively.

The Afghan Whigs' Greg Dulli sings John Lennon's parts on nine songs; while soul asylum's Dave Pirner sings McCartney's vocals on three songs.

In addition to the rock soundtrack, Was produced a second jazz album for the film which captures the early "bebop" sound of the 1960s associated with the Beatnik art scene.

Was himself plays bass on this record along with other jazz musicians Terence Blanchard on trumpet, Eric Reed on piano and Jimmie Wood on harmonica.

Was — who originally reached fame in the 1980s with his innovative band Was (not Was), which made several hits including walk the dinosaur — is popping up everywhere in the music business these days.

The native of Detroit just produced the new Bonnie Raitt album, released this month, and has been working on a new album with the Rolling Stones due out this summer.

"For the past five months, I've been in the studio six days a week with the stones," said Was. "Was expects the new

stones album to be a hit. "They're masters of the rock'n'roll" idiom. They're the very best at what they do. They're the only people who can cite 30 years of growth, continue to expand at what they do and get better."

Was also has upcoming records with country and western stars Waylon Jennings, Kris Kristofferson and Willie Nelson.

Following these projects, Was has been enlisted to direct — a new endeavour — a documentary on Brian Wilson for a BBC series called *Omnibus*.

Is it time for a rest then? Not a chance. Was plans to produce his own record.

## Mondriaan exhibition shows roots of abstract style

By Kristin Kranenberg  
Reuter

**AMSTERDAM** — Piet Mondriaan's paintings of red, yellow and blue blocks created a revolution in modern art in the 1920s and are still copied around the world on posters, mugs, T-shirts and even shampoo bottles.

For those who have always wondered where his instantly recognisable abstract rectangles came from, an exhibition marking the 50th anniversary of his death has found some clues.

It shows that, before adopting his characteristic style, the Dutch painter honed his skills by picturing his home country's landscape.

More than 60 paintings are on show, mostly of Amsterdam industrial sites and rural surroundings between the years 1892 and 1912 when Mondriaan lived in the Dutch capital.

Mondriaan arrived there at the age of 20 to study at the State Academy of Arts and left 20 years later to live in London, Paris and New York.

The organisers of the exhibition have become convinced that Mondriaan's Amsterdam output foreshadowed features of his later

abstract work. By setting clearly-delineated farm houses and boats against a simple background he gave the impression of focus on form and geometry rather than seeking the picturesque.

Around 1900 Mondriaan is seeking a way not only to display but also a clear ordering in his painting," says Boudewijn Bakker, head of the exhibition organisers.

"The conclusion seems justified that there is a link from the earlier to the later work," he adds.

Mondriaan especially favoured two rivers in the Amsterdam area, the Amstel and the Gein.

Often a river bank neatly divides a picture in two, while the water accurately reflects what is seen ashore.

For American art historian Robert Welsh, the reflection of a gable-roofed house in House At The Gein from 1900 resembles the diamond form seen in later abstract Mondriaan works.

Welsh, who helped set up the exhibition, spent years making an inventory of Mondriaan's Amsterdam paintings and drawings. More than 600 of these have survived. "His development has

been very consistent. I have not fully figured out yet if he was conscious of this or not," he says.

Mondriaan often portrayed the same object several times.

The exhibition shows two paintings of a wax candle plant made around 1900. And two of the four versions Mondriaan is known to have made of a colossal dredger are on display.

Gradually Mondriaan began experimenting with bright colours and styles such as pointillism. In 1908 he painted The Mill Near Abcoude in colourful little dots.

"I realised nature's colours cannot be reproduced on the canvas. Insistently I felt I had to find a new way of painting to express nature's beauty," Mondriaan was quoted as saying.

Another venture in form was seen with Tiger-Lily and Amaryllis (both 1910), each magnificent flower pictured against a blue background.

In all the paintings on display, Bakker says he has counted only three living creatures — one person and two cows.

"One often gets the impression that he would rather wait until everybody

## Italian jeweller beats recession with plastic

By Samantha Conti  
Reuter

**ROME** — Paolo Bulgari, Italy's most famous jeweler, wears a plastic watch. Far from a run of the mill timepiece with zebra stripes or polka dots, the \$300 black and gold wrist watch is Bulgari's own creation and his latest sales scheme to beat the recession.

"I knew putting the Bulgari name on plastic was a little risky," said the silver-haired artist whose jewelry sells for up to \$3.2 million a creation.

"But then I thought 'who cares?' If I worried all the time about what people were going to think or say, I'd never do anything new," he told Reuters at his company's understated, wood-paneled headquarters in Rome.

Bulgari, 56, who plants diamonds on the throats and fingers of the world's richest women, said appealing to price-conscious consumers as well had been key to his group's success over the past year.

In 1993, as Italy struggled through its worst recession since World War II and a huge corruption scandal that has ushered in an era of austerity, Bulgari's turnover soared.

Overall sales hit 250 billion lire (\$156 million), up 60 per cent on 1992, when they had fallen by six per cent.

Francesco Trapani, group managing director and Paolo Bulgari's nephew, said introducing reasonably-priced jewellery and perfumes and expanding the business outside Italy had helped ward off the chill of hard times.

In addition to the watch, the black plastic rim of which is engraved with the Bulgari name, the company unveiled a gold ring set with semi-precious stones which costs about \$1,000 — a bargain compared to most of the gems in Bulgari store windows.

Earlier this year the group launched its second scent, Bulgari, which sells for about \$90 a bottle — an average price for a good perfume.

"Seeing a small price tag connected with such a big name was a shock," said Gianni Battistoni, head of the Traders' Association of Via Dei Condotti, Rome's most exclusive shopping street and the site of Bulgari's main showroom.

"But Paolo knows what he's doing. He has the ability to be both near-sighted

and far-sighted when it comes to business strategies. He has an honest, no-nonsense approach to business."

Paolo Bulgari said counterfeit Bulgari jewellery — often sold at half the price — had also been a key to his success.

"Imitations are good for business because it means people like what we're making. The fact that people are making copies forces us to be more creative, to come up with new collections."

Bulgari's unpretentious attitude to business spills over into his personal life.

## Immune trait may increase risk for cervical cancer

**SAN FRANCISCO (R)** — Women who inherit a certain immune trait may be more likely to develop cervical cancer after being infected with human papillomavirus, a researcher said.

The finding — that some women's immune systems fight the virus better than others — might be useful eventually in working on a vaccine against cervical cancer, said R. Raymond Apple, senior scientist in the Department of Human Genetics at Roche Molecular Systems.

Systems, said. Researchers have already linked human papillomavirus-16 (HPV16) to cervical cancer.

"Now it appears that the development of cervical cancer depends on the way an individual's immune system responds to an HPV16 infection," said Dr. Apple.

He presented his findings at the annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research here.

Roche Molecular Sys-

tems, based in Alameda, Calif., is a subsidiary of Swiss drug company Hoffmann-La Roche, but Dr. Apple said the research was not linked to the development of any drug by the company.

Tissue samples from 318 Hispanic women, some with cancer and some healthy, were analysed by the scientists. Hispanic women have a high incidence of cervical cancer, Dr. Apple said.

Scientists found that a

woman's HLA type — the protein signature on certain white blood cells responsible for organ transplant rejection — determined whether they are at increased risk for cervical cancer after being infected with HPV16.

"Our findings suggest that certain HLA types increase risk for cervical cancer by as much as five times, while other HLA types appear to confer resistance to cervical cancer," Dr. Ap-

ple said.

While further studies were needed, the finding could ultimately be used in looking at vaccines against cervical cancer, he said.

"Vaccines might be a distant goal for the HPV viral community... by looking at women who seem to mount a successful response against the virus, we can then go on and look at what this successful response is..." he told a news conference.

Separately, researchers

from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) said it may be possible to genetically determine which cancer tumours will be resistant to radiation treatment.

This would be valuable information for decisions on treatment for patients suffering from head and neck cancers, for example, where a choice could be made between surgery and radiation.

Prof. Christman and another researcher used a

new technique to highlight excess or missing DNA fragments along the gene-bearing chromosomes contained in a human cell.

If the findings hold up, the test could be applied in a clinical setting relatively rapidly, with cells from biopsy samples examined for the presence or absence of these genetic alterations, Michael Christman, UCSF assistant professor of radiation oncology, said.

The scientists made the

findings after a preliminary study of cell cultures originally derived from lung tumours.

"One region of Chromosome 1 was found to contain an unusually large number of copies of a certain DNA segment in half the cancer cell cultures that were not killed by radiation treatment, but in none of the cancer cell cultures that were vulnerable to radiation.

searchers' results showed "statistically significant" differences between blacks and whites in their ability to detoxify the carcinogen.

However, the scientists cautioned that more research is needed to put the findings on firmer ground.

They have now embarked on a larger study, involving 320 people, which is expected to be completed in one to two years.

## 'Metabolism may make blacks prone to cancer'

By Adrian Croft  
Reuter

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Scientists presented research which they said helps to explain why black smokers are more likely to develop lung cancer than whites in the United States.

Researchers from the American Health Foundation, a private, non-profit research foundation, said their study of 36 healthy

smokers, 31 black and 25 white, suggested that blacks may be "metabolically predisposed" to develop lung cancer from smoking.

Previous studies have shown that the incidence of lung cancer among black men is about 50 per cent higher than in white men in the United States.

"We saw a difference between blacks and whites in their ability to detoxify a

lung carcinogen that is present in tobacco smoke," Stephen Hecht, director of research at the foundation, told Reuters.

"Whites were more able to detoxify this carcinogen than were blacks, this seems to go along with the epidemiologic findings that for a similar number of cigarettes smoked blacks are at higher risk for lung cancer than whites," he

said. The findings were presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research by John Richie, a researcher at the American Health Foundation.

The researchers said their results are particularly relevant because they said cigarette manufacturers are aggressively targeting blacks in their marketing

campaigns.

Dr. Hecht said the findings may enable scientists to develop a screening test where a sample of urine could be used to indicate a person's susceptibility to tobacco smoke carcinogens.

This could motivate people who are particularly susceptible to cancer to stop smoking, he said.

"I don't think we're that far from a screening test

like that," Dr. Hecht said.

Dr. Richie and his colleagues evaluated smokers for two metabolites of nicotine-derived nitrosamino-ketone (NNK) — a key tobacco-related carcinogen — that are excreted in urine.

These chemicals — NNAL and NNAL-Gluc — are the same chemicals measured in a previous study by the American Health

Foundation linking second-hand smoke to lung cancer.

NNAL is highly carcinogenic, inducing lung tumours in mice. NNAL-Gluc is thought by researchers to be the end result after NNAL is detoxified by the body. "Our hypothesis is that the higher the level of NNAL compared to NNAL-Gluc, the higher the risk," Dr. Richie said.

Dr. Hecht said the re-

searchers' results showed "statistically significant" differences between blacks and whites in their ability to detoxify the carcinogen.

However, the scientists cautioned that more research is needed to put the findings on firmer ground.

They have now embarked on a larger study, involving 320 people, which is expected to be completed in one to two years.

## Vaccine found 70% effective against skin cancer

**SAN FRANCISCO (R)** — A vaccine developed to treat a high-risk category of skin cancer patients has been found to be 70 per cent effective after three years of study, researchers said.

The researchers at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia said this result compared with 20 per cent effectiveness in patients treated with surgery only.

The results were presented by David Berd, of Jefferson's Division of Neoplastic Diseases, at the annual meeting of the American Association of Cancer Research.

The vaccine being tested at Jefferson is one of several types that have shown promise in recent years to treat melanoma, a skin cancer that is usually fatal in its advanced stages and whose incidence has doubled in the last decade.

In the Jefferson study, 47 patients with stage 3 melanoma were given a vaccine formed from their own tumour cells, which were deactivated and coupled to the chemical dinitrophenyl (DNP).

The patients also received cyclophosphamide, a medication that is commonly used in cancer che-

motherapy and which has been shown to boost the body's immune response.

Results indicate that 60 per cent of patients given the DNP-melanoma vaccine were tumour-free at the three-year mark of the study. While another 10 per cent of the patients experienced a recurrence, they are now disease-free following the removal of their tumours and die.

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By comparison, only 20 per cent of patients overall in the control group remained disease-free during that same time, it said.

## Research holds promise for early breast cancer detection

By Richard Cole  
The Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Scientists have found a potential breast cancer marker that offers hope for an inexpensive blood test to detect the disease much earlier than a mammogram, researchers said.

Zora Djuric, who reported the finding, cautioned that at least four more years of studies and trials are needed before such a test becomes available.

A way to measure DNA

damage in white blood cells caused by toxins called "oxygen free radicals" was discovered by Prof. Djuric and colleagues at Wayne State University in Detroit. The damage was, on the mean, 40 per cent higher in newly diagnosed breast cancer patients than in women who showed no signs of the disease.

"They have something different in their blood... and we believe it shows up long before a mammogram would detect breast cancer," said Prof. Djuric, a professor of internal medicine.

Louisiana State University Medical Centre, said the finding is important.

"I think it does have promise," he said. "It's a new area (researchers) are looking into — trying to identify not only women who have tumours, but women who have a very high risk of developing tumours."

The discovery of DNA damage also may be linked to other cancers, and more research is necessary to determine if it positively links to breast cancer each year, and 46,000 die.

Dr. Petalo Correa, a professor of pathology at

### WEEKEND CROSSWORD

NEAR EAST TOUR  
By William Canine

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## Christopher will carry 'proposals'

(Continued from page 1)

use of my tour," the U.S. secretary said, adding that he will discuss with him "problems with respect to the port of Juba."

"We will continue working with Jordan on the bilateral negotiations and multilateral," Mr. Christopher said, noting that he believed that the situation (of negotiations) between Israel and Jordan "is promising."

He said that Israel and Jordan "continue to be in touch" and that he hoped that they will proceed to reach an economic agreement soon.

The secretary said he hoped during his tour he would be a "facilitator" to convince the parties to the Arab-Israeli negotiations to "pursue peace talks with intensity."

He warned that the Middle East process "should not be allowed to become hostage to extremists" calling on the parties to the negotiations to understand that there will be painful compromises.

Pointing out that his tour of the Middle East "is rather a routine trip," he said his administration viewed its role as an honest broker and mediator.

"The U.S. has been engaged by the parties to carry messages and information back and forth," Mr. Christopher said, adding that the U.S. sometimes "helps explain the issues but it is not our role

to formulate packages."

He was responding to a question by a Syrian reporter on whether the U.S. was making proposals to end the Syrian-Israeli deadlock.

Mr. Christopher said he felt that both Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad were "very serious about peace negotiations and determined to make progress."

Asked by another journalist from Damascus why there appeared to be progress only on the Palestinian-Israeli track, the U.S. secretary said: "There are four bilateral tracks to the negotiations and there is progress on each track."

"It is by accident of history that there was more progress on the Palestinian-Israeli track," the U.S. secretary said, adding that "does not mean that we assign more importance to one track over the other."

The U.S. administration, he said, "has a strong feeling that peace needs to be comprehensive," and that all four tracks of negotiations "need to move forward but not necessarily on the same speed."

He said that the PLO and Israel have been "relatively active" in their negotiations in Cairo but said he hoped that the two sides can "come closer on the issues" being negotiated.

## Deputies begin debate on sales tax

(Continued from page 1)

it is imposed by the IMF and "infringes upon the sovereignty of the country."

The draft legislation, however, had its supporters among lawmakers who said it is required by the interests of the country and its future.

Speaking in his capacity as member of the Finance Committee, Deputy Abdul Karim Kabriti rejected accusations that the committee dismissed differing opinions before it recommended the draft legislation be endorsed as amended by the panel.

"The committee's report is comprehensive, detailed and in favour of the draft law with amendments because it constitutes real guarantee for the growth and safety of the national economy in the coming era," he said.

He said the committee, which proposed the tax be cut down from 10 per cent to seven per cent, was aware of the political dimensions to the law when it discussed it and dealt with its "technical, political, economic and social aspects in line with a genuine national will to develop a policy of self-reliance."

Independent Islamist Deputy Abdul Razzaq Tuberash echoed Mr. Kabriti in saying that national interests dictate that the draft law be approved as amended by the Financial Committee.

But insisting that the House approve the draft law as presented by the government, Finance Minister Sami Gammoh said that the introduction of sales tax was an essential part of the economic readjustment programme which will put the country on the course towards self-reliance.

Mr. Gammoh said the new tax would not add to the tax burden of limited income people, would not lead to price hikes and would not harm the national industry.

On the contrary, he said, the tax would improve the investment environment, encourage exports and help save the country's foreign currency reserves.

So far, the two sides agree on freezing 5,000 of the more than 8,500 Palestinians in Israeli jails.

Upon his arrival in Bucharest, Mr. Arafat withheld comment on prospects of reaching a final accord in the Middle East peace process.

The PLO chairman flew in from a Moscow meeting with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and replied "we will see" when reporters asked if he expected a breakthrough with Mr. Peres this week.

Mr. Arafat was whisked away for talks with Romanian President Ion Iliescu.

Mr. Peres was due in Bucharest later in the day for a four-day international conference starting on Thursday attended by 1,100 political and business leaders from some 50 countries.

On Friday, Mr. Arafat and Mr. Peres will co-chair a discussion at the conference, organised by the Swiss-based Grans Montana Forum, on Middle East economic prospects in the aftermath of the Israeli-PLO peace accords.

Organisers said Mr. Arafat and Mr. Peres would hold bilateral talks before their joint conference appearance, adding that this might yield "a breakthrough in the Middle East peace process."

Mr. Arafat said in Moscow that Israel risked a "Balkanisation" of the Middle East unless it sped up its pull-out from Gaza and Jericho.

## Aqiq refuse to quit mission

(Continued from page 1)

but this may conflict with the Vienna convention, which stipulates that envoys should not be arrested and have to retain diplomatic immunity until they leave the country they are accredited to, the leading newspaper Al Nahar reported Wednesday.

Prominent Lebanese jurist Edmond Naim argued against a trial.

The maximum a host country could do, in case of a crime in which diplomats are caught red-handed, "is to expel the diplomats," Mr. Naim, a former central bank governor, told Al Nahar.

He added that only when progress moves "on the ground rather than on pieces of paper" will the parties in the area be able to see that "progress is possible... because there would have been tangible grassroots improvement."

He said he hoped that the PLO and Israel would be able to reach agreement on an additional release of Palestinian prisoners soon.

He rejected a charge that the U.S. has had a change of position on Jerusalem and Jewish settlements, but said that these two issues were deferred to final status talks through the agreement of the parties concerned and not as a result of a U.S. position.

The two parties recognised that these are very difficult matters and recognised that the timing (of discussion over these two issues) should come at the end of the talks," Mr. Christopher said.

Mr. Christopher, however, reiterated Washington's position against the establishment of a Palestinian state although he said the U.S. was ready to hear other ideas if the parties "come forward" with such ideas.

He reiterated the Clinton administration's commitment to end the Middle East conflict and said it was one of the "top priorities" of the State Department.

"I have been saying that it was right up there with the top six priorities," Mr. Christopher said.

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The suffering to which Palestinians have been subjected to in the occupied West Bank and Gaza has rekindled Palestinian nationalism among Israel's Arabs (AFP photo)

## Israel's Arabs assert Palestinian identity

By Sami Aboudi  
Reuter

**RAHAT** — The Arab crowd wrestled the man to the ground, ripping the Israeli flag from his hands and raising a Palestinian one instead.

In the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, such an open display of resistance Israeli would be nothing new. But this was Rahat, a Bedouin Arabs, village in southern Israel.

Land Day, an annual protest last month by Israel's Arabs against government confiscation of their land, provided fertile ground for seeds of Palestinian nationalism that have taken root among Israel's 850,000 citizens.

For decades, Bedouin Arabs in Israel's southern Negev Desert have served in the Israeli army and avoided political affiliation with Palestinians less than 50 km away.

Now strengthened by prospects of peace between the

Jewish state and its Arab neighbours, Israel's Arabs are trying to reassess the Palestinian identity they lost when Israel was created in 1948.

Hashem Mahameed, a leftist member of the Israeli Parliament, told the crowd in Rahat: "They (Israeli leaders) have tried to divide us into Druze, bedouins and Israel's Arabs. But we are all Palestinians."

The transformation began long before Israel and the PLO signed a peace deal last September. Many say the start of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories in 1987 revived Arab bonds broken 46 years ago.

Israel's Arabs have watched scenes of Palestinians being shot by Israeli troops during clashes in the West Bank and Gaza.

Hushed protests under close police watch that swept

the Arab World after 1948. Watching new Jewish communities thrive on Arab-owned land confiscated by successive governments.

In the initial years of the Jewish state, Israel's Arabs languished under military rule and their political groups were muzzled.

Emerging from military administration, Arabs began mounting protests to recover the land they lost. In 1976, Israeli police shot dead six Arabs in three Galilee villages when Arabs rose to protest government confiscation.

"Until now, the Israeli government has failed to recognise the Arab minority as a national minority. Rather it looked at them as a cultural and religious minority," Mr. Rekness said.

"Israel's major challenge in the years to come is the question of Jewish-Arab relations in Israel," he said.

## Resistance strikes in S. Lebanon

(Continued from page 1)

Assad-Hrawi talks

Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad and Lebanese President Elias Hrawi began talks in Damascus on Wednesday on how to coordinate their positions ahead of the new round of peace negotiations in Washington.

Officials said Syria and Lebanon would insist that any proposal aimed at breaking a deadlock in the 29-month-old peace talks should be based on Israel's full withdrawal from the Syrian Golan heights and South Lebanon.

"Any talk about partial or limited withdrawal from the Golan Heights and South Lebanon will be rejected because occupation and peace could not live together," an official spokesman said.

Presidental spokesman Joubour Kourieh said Syria's Vice President Abdul Halik Khaddam attended part of the meeting at the presidential palace in Damascus before the two presidents went into a closed-door session.

Officials said the talks would cover latest developments in South Lebanon and Lebanese resistance operations against Israeli troops in the area and other issues related to bilateral cooperation.

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PROFESS GRAPHICS

## Sharp Bundesbank rate cut fails to alleviate market gloom

FRANKFURT (R) — The Bundesbank announced a sharper-than-expected decline in one of its key interest rates Wednesday but failed to alleviate gloom on the domestic bond market, which is paralysed by fears of rising U.S. rates.

The central bank said its securities repurchase rate — a key for German money-market rates in general — had fallen to 5.58 per cent this week from 5.70 a week ago. The drop was more than market forecasts of a fall of 10 basis points at most.

But German debt futures prices plunged after the news. The June bond fell a lot of 94.35 after closing at 94.85 on Tuesday.

Economists said the bond market appears to be totally

incapable of decoupling itself from developments in the United States where interest rates have now risen three times in quick succession in response to strong economic recovery.

As one German economist put it recently, "when it comes down to it, the most important central bank for the German bond market is not the Bundesbank but the U.S. Federal Reserve."

Bond market traders were also apparently worried about signs of recovery in the German economy which they believe could signal an end to the German trend to lower rates.

Mr. Kayser said these hopes were justified. "Prospects for recovery have indeed improved," he said.

However, some economists believed these fears were unjustified, especially in the light of optimistic inflation forecasts from the German central bank.

In a commentary on the bond market, Swiss Bank Corp

economist Armin Kayser wrote, "we believe that growth will be non-inflationary for an extended period but nervous markets could be thinking otherwise."

Market fears of potentially inflationary German growth were fuelled Tuesday evening by German Chancellor Helmut Kohl who said at the opening of the Hanover Trade Fair that "springtime" had come for the German economy after a severe recession.

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In a commentary on the bond market, Swiss Bank Corp



Mohammad Ali Abal Khail

### GCC agrees on gradual plan to unify customs

RIYADH (R) — The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) agreed to a new plan Tuesday to gradually unify customs rates, a key obstacle blocking free trade with Europe.

"Rather than pursuing a plan to unify customs on all products at one go, we will break them down to parts," Saudi Arabia's Finance and National Economy Minister Mohammad Ali Abal Khail told reporters after a meeting of the six-nation group.

He said the gradual approach to unify GCC customs on groups of imported products could take two to three years to complete. "This is a practical process," he added.

For years, the GCC has been trying to reach agreement on unifying customs, a key request by its main trading bloc, the European Union (EU), to facilitate a free-trade accord.

"After long discussions, it has been found that the best way to deal with the problem that has been going on for some time is to follow a gradual process," the minister added.

Sheikh Abal Khail said while some GCC states like the United Arab Emirates (UAE) concentrate on trade and report others "depend on custom duties as a principal earner in their budget."

Tariffs among GCC states vary from four to 20 per cent. The world's main trading blocs have urged the GCC to agree on a unified system and a common market to facilitate free trade agreements.

The GCC, formed in 1981 with the aim of forming a common market, is seeking easy access to EU markets for petrochemical products and a final inter-GCC customs accord would improve its position in years of talks with the EU on free trade.

Sheikh Abal Khail said a GCC committee of experts will meet next month to identify which set of products the group will start unifying tariffs on before moving on to a second batch.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain and the UAE.

The Saudi minister told reporters he did not believe that the gradual approach would further delay efforts to unify GCC tariffs.

"Actual trial proves that such a course of (gradual) action, even if it takes some time, is the best way to be taken from a practical sense," Sheikh Abal Khail said.

When asked what steps would be taken to put the plan into action and which products would be placed in the first batch for unified tariffs, he said such issues would be decided by the GCC committee of customs experts when it meets.

Price: JD 9.750 including service charge and tax.

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### Peanuts



### Mutt'n'Jeff



## Asia needs \$1,000 billion to develop infrastructure, ADB report says

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The rapidly growing countries of Asia and the Pacific must spend about \$1,000 billion for infrastructure to maintain their growth over the next six years, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) said Wednesday.

The multinational institution said government funds and foreign aid would likely be insufficient. It suggested encouraging private investment to finance the needed projects.

In its annual report for 1993, the bank said the power sector would require up to \$350 billion, transport, up to \$350 billion; telecommunications, \$150 billion; and water supply and sanitation, up to \$100 billion.

The bank said infrastructure is essential to economic growth because it encourages investment in less developed areas, promotes trade and commerce, facilitates information flow and helps diversify the economy.

In a separate report last week, the bank predicted that the economies of developing countries in the region will grow by seven per cent in 1994 and 7.2 per cent next year. That would make Asia and the Pacific the world's fastest growing region.

"Any lag in the supply of infrastructure will undeniably slow down development over time, even if all other factors are favourable," the bank said.

It also said growing sophistication and trends toward urbanisation will call for high-quality infrastructure.

To meet demand, developing countries should increase their current level of investment of five per cent of gross domestic product to seven per cent over the next decade, it said.

This means annual investment for infrastructure in the

region would be about \$130 billion by the end of the decade, the bank said.

But these countries can no longer rely on infrastructure financing from their governments because of growing budget deficits and competing demands from other sectors. Foreign aid also is unlikely to increase substantially, the bank said.

It said one way to increase private sector involvement is to allow private investors to finance, develop and operate infrastructure and sell services to consumers at rates previously agreed with government.

The bank said it can help attract more investors for such projects because its own loans and equity "enhance the credibility of projects in the financial market."

From 1969 to 1993, the bank lent \$20.6 billion for 436 infrastructure projects in the region,

or 43 per cent of all bank lending. In addition, it gave another \$186 million in technical assistance grants for 542 infrastructure projects.

Power projects accounted for 19.4 per cent of all bank loans; transport and communications, 18.8 per cent; water supply and sanitation, 4.8 per cent.

The bank said nearly \$5.28 billion in loans in 1993 went to development of energy resources and physical and social infrastructure.

This represents nearly 78 per cent of all loans for that year, increasing from \$5.11 billion, or 67 per cent of all loans, in 1992.

The Manila-based bank was established in 1966 to raise funds for development projects in the region and provide economic expertise to member governments.

## Prized Krugerrand returns to world stage

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa's Krugerrand is looking to a fresh lease of life as the country savours its newfound acceptance abroad, and as gold regains its shine as an investment.

The gold coin's worldwide sales have, in its 17 year lifetime, doubled those of all competing coins combined, but sales promotions ceased when trade sanctions and other anti-apartheid curbs were imposed on South Africa in 1985.

As the new South Africa dawns, however, it is again being prompted and its backers expect it to regain its former appeal.

"We're convinced that when the market for consumer gold products picks up, the Krugerrand will again be at the forefront of bullion coins," says Daniel Pollnow, gold marketing consultant to the Chamber of Mines of South Africa.

The Krugerrand, originally launched in 1967, accounted for seven-tenths of world coin sales between 1970 and 1988, which totalled 2,000 tonnes, but foreign sales dried up as sanctions took their toll.

Yet Mr. Pollnow is encouraged by research undertaken to support the relaunch, despite the advantage competing coins from Australia, Austria,

The scrapping of sanctions and an improving gold price enabled the chamber to resume its international marketing drive for the Krugerrand last October, after an eight year suspension.

The one ounce Krugerrand, a popular but with small investors, currently sells at \$376.

The campaign was re-launched in Germany and, following the country's first all-race elections from April 26-28, it will next month turn to the United States — formerly a top market for the coin.

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Yet Mr. Pollnow is encouraged by research undertaken to support the relaunch, despite the advantage competing coins from Australia, Austria,

Britain, Canada, China, Mexico and the United States enjoyed from sanctions.

"It's South Africa's best known product, its only world brand name," he told Reuters in an interview. "The Krugerrand remains the bullion coin. In terms of awareness, no coin comes near it."

But, because promotions had been held off for years, demand since October had been met from stocks which had built up in the trade during that time.

### Jordan team wins DHL performance award

AMMAN — The Jordan offices of DHL Worldwide Express have been presented with a special team award to mark their achievements Jordan 1993. The "DHL Brand Name" award was presented in recognition of DHL Jordan's maintenance of the company's leadership in the air express industry.

"This is a great achievement for what has been a true team effort," said Ken Allen, DHL's Middle East regional manager. "For years, DHL Jordan has been a top performer within our international network and it is good to see that reflected in this award."

DHL Middle East's annual awards are made to country teams and individuals who exemplify the company's Mission Statement values.

DHL has nearly 1,200 employees in the region and around the world 36,000 people work in its network of 218 countries.

### JUMBLE THAT SCRABBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Arpinson

Someday we won't need to wear glasses

**LOPNY**

LO P N Y

# Economy

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 21-22, 1994 7

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET					
BOILING BANK CENTER - AMMAN - JORDAN TELEPHONE: 660170 / 663170 ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR MARCH 24/04/1994					
COMPANY'S NAME		TRADED VOLUME	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
ID	PRICE	ID	ID	ID	ID
ARM BANK	111,540	180,000	186,000	186,000	186,000
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000
BANK OF JORDAN	7,470	9,450	9,550	7,400	7,400
MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK	9,738	4,760	4,750	4,750	4,750
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	17,758	2,280	2,280	2,240	2,240
JORDAN INDIA BANK	5,735	2,995	2,995	2,995	2,995
JORDAN COOPERATIVE BANK	48,718	3,220	3,200	3,195	3,170
JOHN LEWIS TRADING	163,292	2,200	2,150	2,090	2,090
UNION ARAB FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT	930	5,180	5,130	5,130	5,130
JOHNSON & JOHNSON FINANCE BANK	17,136	3,950	3,950	3,950	3,950
WEST EGYPTIAN INVESTMENT BANK FOR BOOSTING	7,499	4,420	4,400	4,420	4,420
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	15,546	1,910	1,910	1,870	1,870
JORDAN COMMERCIAL BANK	36,725	3,700	3,650	3,720	3,720
GENERAL ARABIA INSURANCE	3,750	3,750	3,750	3,750	3,750
JORDAN PENSION INSURANCE	6,210	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050
IRRID DISTRICT ELECTRICITY	29,176	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050
ARAB INTERNATIONAL HOTELS	2,248	1,430	1,500	1,490	1,490
JORDAN TOURISM SUPPLY LINES	3,748	2,640	2,640	2,640	2,640
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	7,888	2,640	2,640	2,640	2,640
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	4,726	0,720	0,720	0,720	0,720
JORDAN FREE PORT AUTHORITY	7,542	2,130	2,130	2,130	2,130
UNITED NIGERIA BANK & COMMERCIAL BANKS	11,320	12,800	12,850	12,600	12,600
JORDAN INSTITUTE FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION	45,616	1,940	2,080	2,080	2,080
THE JORDAN CREDIT FACTORIES	4,282	1,860	1,700	1,710	1,710
JORDAN PROSPECTIVE MINES	940	2,750	2,750	2,750	2,750
JORDAN TRADING	6,211	9,850	9,870	9,900	9,900
JORDAN TRADING & EXPORT	3,740	6,750	6,800	6,800	6,800
THE JORDAN WOMEN'S INDUSTRIES	61,280	12,750	12,750	12,625	12,625
JORDAN CHEMICAL MANUFACTURING	1,040	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
JORDAN INDUSTRIES	35,190	4,300	4,300	4,300	4,300
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & SERVICES	3,430	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & SERVICES	5,578	8,270	8,280	8,370	8,370
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & SERVICES	2,332	3,040	3,040	3,030	3,030
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	17,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
NATIONAL PAPER CORPORATION	345	4,400	4,400	4,400	4,400
JORDAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	2,445	4,920	4,820	4,800	4,800
DRIVERS & CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	6,167	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & SERVICES	1,864	7,450	7,400	7,400	7,400
JORDAN MOG INDUSTRIES	3,400	0,350	0,340	0,340	0,340
ARAB CENTER FOR PLASTIC & CHEMICALS	1,470	6,000	5,900	5,900	5,900
ARAB CENTER FOR PLASTIC & CHEMICALS	1,301	6,880	6,870	6,870	6,870
CAUCASIAN INDUSTRIES	854	2,170	2,130	2,130	2,130
UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES	23,680	4,900	4,860	4,910	4,910
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1,486,204</b>				
NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET	78,840				
TRADED VOLUME IN THE PARALLEL MARKET	JD 145783				

Financial Jordan Times  
Markets in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close		
Sterling Pound*	1.4805	1.4795		
Deutsche Mark	1.7005	1.7020		
Swiss Franc	1.4434	1.4443		
French Franc	5.8375	5.8340**		
Japanese Yen	103.15	103.40		
European Currency Unit	1.3674	1.3671**		
** USD Per STG				
** European Opening at 8:00 am. GMT				
Euromoney Interest Rates	Date: 20/4/1994			
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.6900	4.0000	4.3800	5.0600
Sterling Pound	4.8800	5.0000	5.0600	5.3800
Deutsche Mark	5.3800	5.3100	5.1900	5.0600
Swiss Franc	3.7500	3.7500	3.6900	3.6900
French Franc	5.8100	5.7500	5.6900	5.6900
Japanese Yen	2.0000	2.0600	2.1900	2.4400
European Currency Unit	6.0000	6.0600	5.9300	5.8700
Interest bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.				

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 20/4/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.7040	0.7060
Sterling Pound	1.0405	1.0457
Deutsche Mark	0.4130	0.4151
Swiss Franc	0.4866	0.4890
French Franc	0.1204	0.1210
Japanese Yen*	0.6806	0.6840
Dutch Guilder	0.3680	0.3698
Swedish Krona	.....	.....
Italian Lira*	0.0431	0.0435
Belgian Franc	.....	.....
* Per 100		
Other Currencies	Date: 20/4/1994	
Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8510	1.8640
Lebanese Lira*	0.040575	0.041775
Saudi Riyal	0.1874	0.1886
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3200	2.3550
Qatari Riyal	0.1911	0.1920
Egyptian Pound	0.1900	0.2100
Omani Riyal	1.8090	1.8250
UAE Dirham	0.1911	0.1920
Greek Drachma*	0.2625	0.3155
Cypriot Pound	1.2750	1.3705
* Per 100		

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.3852/62	Canadian dollar
	1.6956/66	Deutschmarks
	1.9048/58	Dutch guilders
	1.4410/20	Swiss francs
	34.95/99	Belgian francs
	5.8280/90	French francs
	162.60/61	Italian lire
	103.20/30	Japanese yen
	7.9375/75	Swedish crowns
	7.3700/50	Norwegian crowns
	6.6630/80	Danish crowns
One sterling	1.4820/30	
One ounce of gold	\$372.55/372.65	

## Lebanon traders may be sending sugar to Iraq

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese government officials and private traders report widely different figures for sugar imports this year and officials said traders may be quietly reexporting thousands of tonnes to Iraq.

They speculated that sugar may be imported to the free zone of the port of Beirut and sent directly from there without entering the Lebanese market — by land to Jordan and on to Iraq.

This would avoid U.S. naval inspections of ships arriving at Jordan's Red Sea port of Aqaba.

The officials spoke during a crisis between Iraq and Lebanon, which broke relations with Baghdad Monday accusing Iraqi diplomats of murdering an Iraqi dissident in Beirut.

This amount, plus 7,000 tonnes of local sugar beet production released onto the market by the directorate, is enough for local needs to date, the officials said. Annual consumption totals 80,000 tonnes.

However, a major private trader told Reuters since 40,000 tonnes of white and raw sugar entered Lebanon since Jan. 1 — far in excess of normal requirements.

All sugar imports to Lebanon are handled by private traders.

The trader said the reason for the unusually large amount of imports was that traders have been taking advantage of low international prices this year.

Asked what happened to the

excess sugar once it entered Lebanon and whether it might go on to neighbouring countries, the trader said: "I don't track shipments."

However, directorate officials said the 27,000 tonnes difference in import figures might be explained if sugar was shipped into the Beirut port free zone and reexported directly from there to neighbouring countries like Iraq and Jordan.

Reexports of sugar usually occurred when neighbouring countries were experiencing a crisis, an official said.

"For the time being there are problems in Aqaba, like (ship) searches and delays so a ship may prefer to bring in extra goods and it may be brought here," he told Reu-

ters.

"As for the problem of Iraq — a shortage there for instance

## U.S., S. Korea give guarded go-ahead to joint war games

**SEOUL** (Agencies) — South Korea said Wednesday it would stage controversial war games with the United States this November, but only if North Korea refused to return to its refusal to open nuclear sites to international scrutiny.

The Seoul Defence Ministry said Team Spirit joint military exercises could be suspended if North Korea complied with terms set by Washington in February while the two sides were discussing terms for a round of high-level talks.

The ministry's statement came after more than an hour of talks between U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry and his South Korean counterpart Rhee Byoung-Tae, who are trying to settle the row over North Korea's secretive nuclear programme.

"(We) would consider suspending the 1994 Team Spirit exercise if conditions for a third round of high-level talks between the United States and North Korea are met," the statement said.

"If North Korea does not comply with the agreement made in February, we will stage Team Spirit around November this year," it added.

Conditions for the U.S.-North Korean talks, which never took place, included inspection of Pyongyang's declared nuclear sites to the satisfaction of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), nuclear watchdog of the United Nations.

Another condition for the talks was the resumption of North-South Korean dialogue, suspended amid acrimony last month when the North threatened that it could turn Seoul into "a sea of flames" in the event of war.

Mr. Perry, speaking after talks with Mr. Rhee, said political tension had risen on the Korean peninsula due to North Korea's refusal to accept the call of the international community to prove that it only has a peaceful nuclear programme.

"The door remains open to dialogue with North Korea to resolve the nuclear question. In the meantime, we shall remain prepared against any North Korean miscalculation," he said.

Mr. Perry and Mr. Rhee stressed their "complete solidarity" in dealing with the isolated Stalinist state after their talks.

"It was an excellent, excellent meeting. We have formed already a deep friendship and I would say without any question that the United States and South Korea have complete solidarity on a whole set of issues affecting us," Mr. Perry said.

Earlier this year the annual Team Spirit exercise was suspended as part of an effort to persuade Communist North Korea to open suspected nuclear facilities to IAEA inspectors.

But South Korea and Washington announced a re-

sumption of preparations after IAEA staff were denied full access to the sites during an inspection tour last month.

Mr. Perry said he felt there was no immediate danger of conflict on the divided Korean peninsula.

"I believe there is no danger of imminent hostilities — any imminent military confrontation — between North and South Korea," he said.

North Korea, baulking at the pressure being applied by the United Nations because of its refusal to allow full nuclear inspections, has warned that war could break out again on the peninsula is pushed too far.

In a statement carried by the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) and monitored in Tokyo, North Korea said the United States and the IAEA were using the nuclear issue "as a leverage for attaining their dishonest political objectives of strangling North Korea's system."

While Mr. Perry and Mr. Rhee were holding their talks at the Defence Ministry, a rowdy group of students called the walls of the ministry compound and staged a sit-down protest.

"No more Americans. Yankee go home," they shouted. They also carried posters saying "no war. Go Yankee" and "you warmacs."

The students were surrounded and arrested by a phalanx of riot police, while military police in the compound

watched without intervening.

The international environmental watchdog Greenpeace, currently in South Korea on an anti-nuclear publicity tour, called in an open letter to Mr. Perry Wednesday for Washington to negotiate a halt to nuclear programmes not only in North Korea but also in the South and in Japan.

"All plutonium material and technologies have a potential military utility and therefore, in addition to concerns over the activities of (North Korea), the civil nuclear power programmes of (South Korea) and Japan are also raising tensions about nuclear proliferation in the region," Greenpeace said.

Meanwhile a U.S. defence analysis said Wednesday North Korea is expected to allow fresh nuclear inspections and will soon announce new measures to open its closed economy.

Dr. William Taylor Jr. made the remarks to South Korea's Yonhap News Agency in Beijing, where he arrived Tuesday from a weekend visit to North Korea. The interview was published in the Korean Language Wednesday.

Dr. Taylor, senior vice president of the Washington-based Centre for Strategic and International Studies, was invited along with several U.S. and Japanese journalists to last Friday's celebrations of North Korean leader Kim Il Sung's 82nd birthday.



South African President F.W. De Klerk (centre) is flanked by African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela (right) and Zulu leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi after they signed an agreement for reconciliation and peace (AFP photo)

## Inkatha opens poll campaign

**JOHANNESBURG** (R) — Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party opened its campaign Wednesday for next week's historic all-race elections in South Africa, saying God was on its side.

The party's 11th-hour decision to take part in the April 26-28 elections brought jubilation across the country and hopes for an end to political violence that has killed hundreds of people each month.

The ANC described the deal as a miracle to reduce widespread carnage between its supporters and those of Zulu-based Inkatha, which till Tuesday's about-face had planned a poll boycott.

The elections are destined to give political power to majority blacks for the first time, ending three centuries of white dominance at the tip of the African continent.

More than eight million Zulus form the single biggest black group in South Africa.

"It is a miracle that we finally brought (Inkatha) to an all-inclusive settlement. It means that the level of violence will be reduced," ANC Secretary-General Cyril Ramaphosa told foreign correspondents in Johannesburg.

The African National Congress (ANC) is widely tipped to win the election and form a national unity government.

Despite the words of peace, police said four people were killed in suspected political violence in Inkatha's power-base Kwazulu-Natal overnight, bringing to more than 240 the death toll since the March 31

declaration of a state of emergency in the volatile region.

Spokesman Major Bala Naidoo said while politically-linked violence had declined since the weekend it was too early to say whether Inkatha's decision would further reduce the unrest.

South Africa's financial markets were steady Wednesday after a big leap in shares and currency dealings on the previous day's political sensations.

Inkatha's information chief Ziba Jiyane said his party had agreed Tuesday to join the elections to prevent "bloody civil war."

"Human life is more important than any party interest," Mr. Jiyane said on national television, before leaving for a meeting in the Natal port of Durban to discuss strategy in the national and regional polls.

"God is on our side. We will do wonders," replied Mr. Jiyane when asked if Inkatha had enough time to canvass in the six days before the elections.

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said the deal meant there should be free political activity in Kwazulu homeland. Mr. Jiyane said this too should be the case in ANC strongholds elsewhere in the country.

Inkatha's Central Committee met in the Kwazulu capital Umlazi Wednesday to finalise its lists of candidates.

Party supporters took to the streets of Durban and Umlazi on Tuesday in impromptu celebrations following the breakthrough.

Inkatha election posters,

stored during months of toruous and, until Tuesday, failed negotiations, were dusted off and appeared on streets almost as soon as the decision was announced.

Asked why Inkatha had waited until the last minute to join the transition to majority rule, Mr. Jiyane said: "It is to our credit that we stood by our principles despite the enormous sacrifices we had to make."

Announcing the breakthrough Tuesday, President F.W. De Klerk, ANC leader Nelson Mandela and Mr. Buthelezi appealed for an end to the violence.

But some of the worst factional fighting in months took place in Tokozza township east of Johannesburg Tuesday, killing at least five people and wounding 40.

The deal met Mr. Buthelezi's demands for a special status for his nephew the Zulu king and regional powers in the Zulu heartland of Kwazulu-Natal, traditional Zulu heartland.

King Goodwill Zwelithini called on his subjects to renounce violence and vote.

"With the announcement the violence which has erupted in this province needs to come to an end today," the king said.

In contrast to the reaction of most political groups and parties, the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) said the deal would lead to tribal war.

Rivalry between Inkatha and the ANC has accounted for many of the 10,000 deaths in political unrest in Kwazulu-Natal over the past decade.

## Berlusconi gets down to talks on government

**ROME** (R) — Media magnate Silvio Berlusconi has begun substantive talks on forming Italy's next government and said he wants to look outside his conservative coalition for some of his ministers.

The tycoon met for three hours at his Rome residence Tuesday night with federalist, neo-fascist and centre-right partners in the "Freedom Alliance" that stormed to victory in last month's general elections.

"I hope that... the prime minister designate will have full responsibility for choosing the government team. And I hope I can also count on ministers, men and women, from outside the majority," Mr. Berlusconi said.

He gave no names but his remarks appeared to refer both to technocrats and to centrists, to whom Mr. Berlusconi is looking for support in the Senate where the Freedom

Alliance secured only a relative majority of seats.

Gianfranco Fini, leader of the neo-Fascist National Alliance, and Roberto Maroni, lower house leader of the federalist Northern League, both said the talks had gone well.

"The main thing we talked about was a government programme, assuming that the head of state appoints Mr. Berlusconi. But we're optimistic on that," Mr. Fini told reporters early Wednesday.

Mr. Maroni said: "We're off to a good start."

President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro is expected to begin formal consultations later this week with the speakers of parliament's two houses, party leaders and institutional figures on whom to appoint as prime minister designate.

His way was cleared last weekend when Freedom Alliance candidates won a majority in the 630-member

Chamber of Deputies in the elections as Italians kicked out an old guard disgraced by two years of corruption scandals.

But it secured only a relative majority in the 315-seat Senate, which can block lower house legislation and must vote confidence in any new government before it can take office.

The small centrist Popular Party, built from the rump of the once powerful Christian Democrats, said Tuesday night that it would vote against a Berlusconi government in both assemblies in a confidence debate.

But its leaders also said they would not act in a way that would make Italy ungovernable.

"The Popular Party... will not mount an opposition whose objective is to impede government. We will assess each item of legislation on its merits," senior party politician Rocco Buttiglione said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### 'Mishaps' reported at Chernobyl

**KIEV** (R) — Two "technical mishaps" occurred on consecutive days at the Chernobyl nuclear power station during a lengthy international inspection of the plant, Interfax Ukraine News Agency said Wednesday. The agency said the incidents took place Monday and Tuesday at the plant, site of the world's worst nuclear accident in 1986. There was no increase in radiation but both mishaps were recorded at level one on the seven-point international scale. Interfax quoted nuclear industry officials as saying that alarm systems were set off Monday in Chernobyl's third reactor after water levels had dropped in its cooling system as the reactor was being reconnected after planned maintenance. On Tuesday, a mechanical unit moving nuclear fuel into place failed and a container banged against adjacent installations. There was no damage to installations and nuclear officials said by telephone the incident rated zero on the international scale.

### Senate rejects punishment for admiral

**WASHINGTON** (R) — The Senate rejected an effort by all seven women senators to punish the navy's top admiral for the women-groping 1991 Tailhook sex scandal. They urged the Senate to oppose chief of naval operations Admiral Frank Kelso's retirement as a four-star admiral for what they called his failure of leadership in the scandal. But the Senate approved Adm. Kelso's four-star retirement 54-43. His supporters saying he should not be made a scapegoat for wrongdoing not his fault. A Pentagon report said 83 women including 15 navy officers were assaulted in a hallway gauntlet. "Someone in the military must pay a tangible, quantifiable price for Tailhook and no one in the military has except those women who were sexually assaulted," Senator Barbara Boxer, a California Democrat said. President Bill Clinton proposed Adm. Kelso's retirement as a full admiral and Defence Secretary William Perry and other top defence officials urged the Senate to approve it, saying Adm. Kelso committed no wrongdoing in the scandal.

### Cambodia confirms fall of Pailin

**PHNOM PENH** (R) — Khmer Rouge guerrillas have recaptured their headquarters at Pailin from the army in a serious setback to the Cambodian government, a senior source in Phnom Penh said Wednesday. The Maoist guerrillas said Tuesday they had retaken the western town, exactly a month after a 4,000-strong army expedition seized it amid much fanfare. The government confirmed Tuesday that part of Pailin had fallen but refused all comment Wednesday. A scheduled news briefing was cancelled and journalists were forbidden to contact the Khmer Rouge civilian office in the capital. But the source said the government had privately admitted the loss of the timber-and-gem-rich town. He said the army had withdrawn four kilometres east of Pailin and had also withdrawn from a firebase at Sala Krau 15 kilometres north of the town. No casualty figures have been released by the government. The Khmer Rouge said Tuesday they had seized eight tanks and destroyed seven. Figures denied by the government. The guerrillas said Tuesday they first cut a key road linking the firebase at Sala Krau with a Second Army position at Kon Domrei to the east. The insurgents then cut the road from Sala Krau with Pailin before launching their main attack on the town.

### French collaborator gets life sentence

**VERSAILLES**, France (R) — French Jewish groups called for the speedy trial of Nazi collaborator Maurice Papon Wednesday after former militiaman Paul Touvier became the first Frenchman to be convicted of crimes against humanity. In a landmark trial, a nine-member jury and three judges of the Versailles Assize Court jailed Mr. Touvier, 79, for life for his collaboration with Nazi Germany during World War II. Condemned for ordering the execution of seven Jews in June 1944, Mr. Touvier was a member of the feared French militia during the war and hid for more than four decades from justice. Now Mr. Papon is the last Frenchman charged with crimes against humanity who has yet to be brought to justice.

### France proposes EU founder club

**PARIS** (R) — France proposed Tuesday that the European Union create a special category of member states around France and Germany committed to all common EU policies. In a move that could alienate Britain and Denmark, France's European affairs minister, Alain Lamassoure, said a "hard core" of EU member states who supported the full array of common policies must be allowed to move ahead and not be held back by recalcitrant nations. Mr. Lamassoure told the Senate (upper house) that "countries that are ready to move forward must be able to do so without waiting for the others. This justifies the introduction of a new concept — that of 'new founding countries,'" he said. The French minister said the formal creation of a hard core of countries with France and Germany at the centre would help assimilate new members.

### Ukraine to examine arms pact soon

**NEW DELHI** (R) — Ukraine's foreign minister said that his former Soviet republic had received insufficient funds to help it deal with the huge task of getting rid of what were Soviet nuclear weapons. Anatoly Zlenko, on a two-day visit to India, also said Ukraine's new parliament would soon debate joining the 1968 international nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT). He said Ukraine could understand India's stand on the NPT. "Each country has its own position and each country must take this into account," Mr. Zlenko said of India's failure so far to become party to the pact. He said \$350 million in disarmament aid provided by the United States to his country in no way covered the costs of deactivating some 1,600 warheads in Ukraine, making safe missile silos and retraining personnel. Ukraine has repeatedly said more than \$2 billion is required to complete disarmament.

### Finnish killer conscript surrenders

**HELSINKI** (AP) — An armed conscript who deserted his barracks in southeast Finland and killed three people surrendered at dawn, police said Wednesday. Pvt. Mika Muranen, 22, was apprehended at a housing development in Kotka, 135 kilometres (83 miles) east of Helsinki, after an all-night chase by dozens of police, a helicopter and armoured vehicles. "After a few warning shots by the police, Muranen gave in his weapon and surrendered," said police inspector Arto Makaela. Muranen did not fire a shot, but he was grazed by a bullet, Insp. Makaela added. On Tuesday, Muranen shot dead Reimo Vulku, 53, and his wife Impi, 54, with a crossbow, Insp. Makaela said. Later he killed Matti Ollin, 45, with an assault rifle.

## Japan alliance continues to bicker

**TOKYO** (R) — Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata stood ready to take over as Japan's next prime minister Wednesday but the ruling coalition's failure to agree on policy meant yet another delay in the vote to confirm him.

The bickering coalition failed to patch up differences on several policy issues after 12 days of acrimonious, on-off talks, delaying a parliamentary vote to elect a new prime minister until Friday at the earliest.

A patient Hata said he was not disturbed by the delay.

"It's very important now that we [the coalition members] agree on a policy direction," Mr. Hata told reporters.

A coalition official said negotiators for the different alliance members were due to resume talks late Wednesday aimed at agreeing to a new policy platform.

The ruling camp has been in turmoil and on the brink of collapse for nearly two weeks since Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's sudden resignation over a loans scam.

Debate on the state budget for 1994/95, which is now three weeks overdue, has been paralysed since the beginning of March. Although bureaucrats take care of day-to-day affairs, parliamentary law-making is

on hold.

Only after alliance partners agree on policy will they endorse Mr. Hata as their choice for premier and schedule a vote.

"The coalition parties appear unable to reach an agreement on a common policy and there's no way that we can schedule a vote in parliament to choose a new leader for Thursday," said a Socialist official reached at parliament.

"We'll try for Friday."

The coalition has polarised into two warring factions, with the dominant camp behind conservatives Hata and Ichiro Ozawa, co-leaders of the Shinsen (Renewal Party).

# Sports

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Dener dies in car crash

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazilian soccer international Dener died in a car crash in Rio de Janeiro early Tuesday, an official of his Rio club Vasco de Gama said. The 23-year-old striker had scored three goals for Vasco in this year's Rio state championship. He was rated in contention for a place in Brazil's squad for this year's World Cup finals. Dener, who previously planned for Gremio de Porto Alegre and Portuguese of São Paulo, was once described as the young Pelé. In his last game, against Fluminense Sunday, he was sent off after tangling with an opponent.

### Pele becomes UNESCO goodwill ambassador

PARIS (R) — Former Brazilian soccer star Pele Tuesday became the first sportsman to be named a goodwill ambassador for UNESCO, the United Nations Cultural Organisation. UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor said at a short ceremony in Paris he hoped Pele would be able to help the organisation, especially in its campaign for the prevention of drug abuse among young people worldwide. "There can be no better ambassador for UNESCO's view of sport," he said. The 53-year-old Pele said he was delighted to take on the role. "During my entire career, my major concern has been the well-being and dignity of all minorities," he said.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAWFIK HIRSH  
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#### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

**Q.1** Both vulnerable, as South. What action do you take? You hold:  
♦KQ 7106754 09853 ♦AQ The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West 1 0 Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
**Q.2** East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦KQ 7106754 09853 ♦AQ The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West 1 0 Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
**Q.3** East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦KQ 7106754 09853 ♦AQ The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West 1 0 Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
**Q.4** Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦KQ 7106754 ♦K102 02 4A104 The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West 1 0 Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
**Q.5** East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♦KQ 7106754 09853 ♦AQ The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West 1 0 Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
**Q.6** As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♦KQ 7106754 0A105 Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with three diamonds. What action do you take?

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## Final week of 1993 soccer championship starts today

By Aileen Razanay  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It is finally time to bid farewell to the 1993 first division soccer championship when the final six matches of the 44-week-long competition begin Thursday.

Among the 12 competing teams only Al Faisali have secured their standing after retaining the title and maintaining a remarkable record by scoring a record number of 49 goals throughout the competition, and losing only to Al Hussein 1-0.

The prestigious title will be Al Faisali's 25th since 1944 when the Jordan Soccer Federation (JSF) launched the Kingdom's first competition with four clubs — Al Urdum, Al Ahli, Hormentmen and Al Faisali.

The titleholders have also clinched the 1993 Jordan Cup and Cup Winners' Cup, while Al Ramtha won the Federation Shield title.

Former champions, Al Wihdat, and the rest of the teams will have to await the results of the final week to claim their positions.

While three teams — Yarmouk, Fubeis and Sabah have already been relegated, another four — Al Baqaa, Al Ramtha, Al Arabi and Al Qadissieh — will have to count on a mixture of luck and effort to avoid the prospect of relegation facing the last four teams.

The JSF has decided that all matches on Thursday will be held simultaneously at Al Mafraq, Salt, Irbid and Amman stadiums. In the case of four teams, a deciding round will be held to determine the fourth relegated team.

On Friday Al Wihdat clash with Al Faisali and Al Jazireh meet Sabah. Wihdat's win or draw will automatically secure them

second place since they have 41 points, while the second closest team, Al Hussein, have 38 and need a win and Al Wihdat's defeat to tie with Al Wihdat and force a deciding match for second place.

Al Hussein will be facing Al Arabi who need to draw to secure a halfway position.

Al Ramtha, a titleholder in 1981 and 1982, is in an untenable situation in 8th place as they will have to defeat Al Ahli to secure their place in the division.

Al Ramtha have dropped in the standings after losing six out of 10 matches in the second leg to lowly Al Fubeis, Al Arabi, Al Yarmouk and Al Baqaa. They also lost to Al Wihdat and Al Faisali, while defeating only Al Hussein and Sabah, and drawing with Al Qadissieh and Al Jazireh.

If relegated, it will be the first time for Al Ramtha who were promoted to the first division in 1977.

Their decline seems to have begun when they scored disappointing results in the Arab Cup Winners' Cup in Jeddah in November.

Disagreements among the club's coach and top players led to many of the veterans' desertion of the team at a critical stage of the competition.

Al Baqaa are also in a very difficult position as they are now in 9th place and will next have to defeat Al Yarmouk hoping that the other teams lose.

Similarly Al Qadissieh cannot afford another upset when they meet Al Fubeis in their last match.

Al Qadissieh were the best team of the second leg and had a chance for the runner-up spot before unexpectedly losing 3-2 to Al Jazireh, drawing 1-1 with Al Ramtha and 3-3 with Al Arabi. However their 5-1 loss to Al Baqaa last week put

them in a real tight spot as they now seek not an advanced position but rather avoiding any slim chance of relegation.

The 1993 championship was greatly affected by continuous postponements for various reasons. Most teams also failed to maintain a consistent form giving rise to many surprising results.

During the second leg, Al Wihdat and Al Jazireh were the two teams that most improved their standing. Al Jazireh are in fifth place for now after being in real danger of relegation throughout most of the competition. Meanwhile, Al Ahli who had maintained second place throughout most of the first leg, fell back and lost the chance to win second place after losing to Sabah and Al Arabi.

Al Faisali's star Jiryas Tadros is now the league's top striker with 17 goals, followed by Al Qadissieh's Mustafa Adam with 14.

The league's other top strikers are Sabah's Mohammad Al Ashhab, Al Ramtha's Khaled Aqqouri, Al Hussein's Aref Hussein, Al Wihdat's Marwan Al Shamali, Al Yarmouk's Khaled Yousef, Fubeis' Wa'ed Suweis, Al Ramtha's Badran Al Shaqra, Al Qadissieh's Ra'd Al Momani, Fubeis' Kahder Mubarak, Al Arabi's Ahmad Subhi, Al Ahli's Amer Wali, Al Faisali's Ja'far Hammadi, Al Ahli's Imad and Khalil Fatatlah, Al Faisali's Subhi Suleiman, Al Hussein's Munib Garabieh and Mohammad Shweite, Al Jazireh's Murad Hassan and Simon George, and Al Arabi's Ayman Al Omari.

Al Faisali's 1st division championship record: 1944, 1945, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1976, 1977, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1992 and 1993

defeated the Knicks 87-84 at Madison Square Garden. If Atlanta wins, moving closer to clinching the east.

On a Tuesday night featuring several games with playoff implications, there were plenty of good contests, but no huge surprises.

In the Eastern Conference, Atlanta, Indiana, New Jersey and Miami won games they needed to win. In the Western Conference, Seattle and Houston lost games they really did not need to win.

It all added up to a slightly clearer playoff picture, although one or two upsets in the last five days of the regular season could muddle things again.

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## Impatient Agassi loses in Monte Carlo Open



MONTE CARLO, Monaco (AP) — At first it seemed like a mismatch. Andre Agassi won the first set in 27 minutes against a Russian who admits he does not do well on clay.

The photographers were even paying more attention to Agassi's special guest, actress Brooke Shields, at courtside than the match.

However, Russian Evgeni Kafelnikov turned around and beat Agassi, 1-6, 6-3, 6-4, to knock the 15th seed out of the Monte Carlo Open Tuesday.

Agassi and Shields came to Monte Carlo together. They must now leave a little quicker than expected.

Kafelnikov, ranked 41st in the world, had won two tournaments earlier this year but on hard courts. He was not expected to do well on the slow, clay courts at the Monte Carlo country club, especially after rain had wet the surface.

"It is not my best. In three matches on clay, I did not win a single set," Kafelnikov said. "I am not as comfortable as on hard surfaces. I don't move around well on clay."

Agassi said it was mostly his mistakes that cost him the match.

"Today it was all me. Had nothing to do with him," he said. "I think he plays well. But clay is not his surface. He is not comfortable on clay, and I am responsible for it. That is the bottom line."

After Agassi won the first set by taking six consecutive games, the match started to turn in Kafelnikov's favour.

"I felt like I was impatient for the second and the third set. My confidence was not there. When my confidence is not there, you try to overcompensate; you try to hit big shots and get your confidence going. It was just all wrong," Agassi said.

Agassi started to make forehand errors. He lost the first four games of the second set as Kafelnikov evened it at a set apiece.

At 4-4 in the third set, a double fault helped put Agassi behind 0-40 and another fore-

hand error by Agassi put Kafelnikov up, 5-4.

Kafelnikov served an ace to start the final game and Agassi ended the match with two straight forehand errors to hand the victory to Kafelnikov in one hour, 48 minutes.

The top three seeds advanced to the second round with straight set victories.

Top-seeded Michael Stich of Germany beat France's Guy Forget, 6-2, 7-5. Forget was playing his first tournament in almost a year after being sidelined by a knee injury.

Second-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden beat German qualifier Thomas Gollwitzer, 6-3, 6-2.

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They should be able to demonstrate the following:

Fluency & accuracy in written and spoken English and Arabic.

Experience of managing budgets and preparation of accounts.

Interpersonal skills and initiative, with ability to manage and motivate staff and outside suppliers/contractors.

Computer skills (Lotus 123 or Excel and financial packages) and the ability to develop computer applications.

A full job description for the post is available for collection from the British Council, Rainbow Street, off First Circle.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Majali holds talks with Syrian minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Wednesday received at his office at the Parliament Syrian Awqaf Minister Abdul Majid Al Tarabusi, who represented his country at the Kingdom's celebrations marking the completion of renovation work at Al Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock mosques in Jerusalem. Dr. Majali and Mr. Tarabusi discussed means of enhancing Jordanian-Syrian relations in Awqaf and religious fields. The meeting was attended by Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Abdul Salam Al Abbadi.

## Two Iraqis steal into Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — Two unarmed Iraqi men crossed the Jordan River in their underwear Wednesday and then approached an Israeli army base asking for political asylum, ITIM news reports said. Israeli radios and the ITIM news agency said the infiltration was near kfar Ruppin, a collective farm on the Jordanian border about 80 kilometres north of Jerusalem. Itim said the men apparently had a criminal record and decided to try seeking asylum in Israel after failing to obtain citizenship in Jordan. They were being questioned by security forces and later would be turned over to police, the agency said. Four other Iraqis infiltrated Israel just north of the same spot earlier this month. They were also being questioned. Israel usually finds other countries to take Iraqis seeking asylum.

## Jewish militants protest Odeh memorial

SANTA ANA (AP) — Jewish militants are protesting a civic centres statue honouring slain Arab-American civil rights advocate Alex Odeh because the bombing victim supported the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). "The creators of this sculpture would have everyone believe that the life of Alex Odeh was dedicated to love and peace for all people," Irv Rubin, national chairman of the Jewish Defence League, said in a statement announcing plans to protest before the city council Monday night. "The truth is, Mr. Odeh was a 100 per cent dedicated PLO proponent, notwithstanding the fact that PLO covenant even today advocates the destruction of the Jewish state," Mr. Rubin wrote. Odeh, who would have been 50 this month, was killed in the 1985 bombing of his office at the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee here. No one was ever charged. As the organisation's western regional director, Odeh worked to counter negative stereotypes and fought for fair treatment of Arabs in the United States. More than 500 people showed up April 10 for the unveiling of the three-metre bronze statue by sculptor Khalil Bendib, who portrayed Odeh in a robe holding a book and a dove. Speakers included Arnold Rachlis of the University Synagogue of Irvine, who eulogized Odeh as a man of peace seeking justice for Arabs. "To him Jews, Christians, Muslims, all were the children of Abraham," reads part of the statue's inscription.

## Tremor hits southwest Iran

NICOSIA (R) — An earthquake measuring 4.8 degrees on the Richter scale shook Iran's southwestern region of Khuzestan, the Iranian news agency IRNA said on Wednesday. It said there were no reports of casualties or damage in Tuesday's tremor, the last in a series to hit different areas of Iran in the last few months.

## Sudanese ship, oil platform burn

SUEZ (AP) — A Sudanese ship rammed an unmanned oil platform Wednesday in the Gulf of Suez, causing fires that burned for hours but no injuries, authorities said. Despite heavy damage and fire on the pumping platform, there was no threat of pollution damage, said Magdi Omar, the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation's top environmental engineer. But Mr. Omar said the platform was put out of action indefinitely. "We have to inspect it and repair it," he said. He said reports from the scene, off the coast south of Ras Shukhein 300 kilometres southeast of Cairo, indicated the ship is damaged, and the platform is heavily damaged. But its safety valves functioned properly and prevented spillage or pollution. Mr. Omar, general manager for safety and environment with the government-controlled production company, said both the platform and the general cargo ship Marwa, caught fire after the 3:30 a.m. (0130GMT) crash. The ship burned for seven hours, the platform for an hour longer. Egypt is not a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries but ranks as a significant oil producer at almost 900,000 barrels a day. About half is exported.

## Gunmen kill police general in Egypt

ASSIUT (AP) — Three gunmen opened fire on a police general's car as he rode to work Wednesday, killing him, his bodyguard and a bystander and wounding his driver, authorities said. Brigadier-General Sherien Aly Fahmy's killers escaped, as in most hit-and-run attacks against police in two years of extremist anti-government violence in southern Egypt. Fahmy was the highest-ranking officer slain in the country since attackers killed Cairo's top anti-terrorist official in a machine gun and firebomb attack on April 9. Nobody immediately claimed Wednesday's murder. The extremist Al Gamma Al Islamiyah claimed the April 9 attack and the assassinations of two of southern Egypt's most senior security officers last year. Police said Wednesday's attack occurred on a downtown Assiut street after Fahmy's car had picked him up for work. The driver, a policeman, was reportedly critically wounded. More than 350 people, mainly police and extremists, have died since simmering radical discontent exploded into more systematic and coordinated violence in early 1992, the extremists want to overthrow the government and install strict Islamic rule.

## CIA says more spy cases coming

WASHINGTON (R) — General Intelligence Agency (CIA) director James Woolsey said Tuesday more cases of Americans selling secrets to foreign agents are about to unfold. He said on NBC's "Today Show" that the CIA was not the only agency penetrated by the Soviet Union and cases are being made against present and former officials based on information obtained from abroad after the collapse of communism. CIA official Aldrich Ames has been charged with being a Soviet "mole" in the CIA and blamed for the deaths of U.S. secret agents in Russia. He and his Colombian-born wife, Rosaria, are awaiting trial on espionage charges. Mr. Woolsey said there are similar cases in the works and indicated that Mr. Ames had yet to cooperate with government investigators despite reports that he is willing to help if the government promises leniency for his wife. "As communism collapsed in East Germany and in the Soviet Union as well as in Eastern Europe and other countries, the CIA has come across a good deal of counter-intelligence information," Mr. Woolsey said. "We have shared this as appropriate with law enforcement agencies in the United States," he said. "There are number of different counter intelligence cases proceed from that."

## Swedish car wrecked by Athens bomb

ATHENS (R) — A Swedish diplomat's car was gutted by a fire-bomb on Wednesday, the fourth attack against Western diplomats in Greece this week, police said. No one was injured in the attack in Vouniagmeni, a seaside suburb south of Athens. No one has claimed responsibility. Left-wing guerrillas are suspected of bombing two French diplomatic cars on

## Jordan sees new Hamas stand as positive to peace

By Nermene Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan on Wednesday welcomed the willingness of the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, to accept United Nations resolutions 242 and 338 as the basis for peace with Israel.

"We acknowledge parties who adhere to the relevant United Nations resolutions and consider this helpful to the peace process," Information Minister Jawad Al Anani told the Jordan Times.

He said that Jordan has accepted United Nations resolutions 242 and 338 pertaining to the conflict between Israel and each of Jordan, Palestine and Syria and resolutions 425 and 426 pertaining to Lebanon as the basis for peace.

The King's statement came after the kingdom was criticised over the presence of Hamas representatives in Jordan. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Thursday threatened Jordan after Hamas spokesman Mohammad Nazzal made statements claiming responsibility for Hamas bomb attacks in Israel that took the lives of 12 Israelis.

Hamas later issued a statement charging that Mr. Rabin was targeting Jordan for criticism after failing to curb Hamas' activities in the occupied territories.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, a leading Hamas activist on Wednesday reiterated that the group was willing to take part in peace negotiations with Israel if it agreed to a set of conditions that include a total withdrawal from the occupied territories.

"The ball is now in Israel's court. If the Israelis give us something worthwhile in return, we will be ready to negotiate with them," Ahmad Bahr, a Hamas preacher and one of 413 Islamic activists expelled to Lebanon in December 1992, was quoted as saying by AP.

Hamas conditions included full Israeli withdrawal from the Palestinian territories, full and free elections in the West Bank and Gaza and accepting an elected leadership that would "represent the hopes and aspirations of our people and decides on the next step and the future of the Palestinian problem."

Mr. Abu Marzouq, in the interview with Al Sabeel, affiliated with the influential Islamic Action Front (IAF), that his movement's offer amounted to a "political initiative" as a way to break the "present deadlock" in Middle East peace talks.

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full Israeli withdrawal from the Palestinian territories, full and free elections in the West Bank and Gaza and accepting an elected leadership that would "represent the hopes and aspirations of our people and decides on the next step and the future of the Palestinian problem."

Mr. Abu Marzouq, in the interview with Al Sabeel, emphasised these three conditions by saying that they should be fulfilled "if Israel wanted Hamas to agree to peace with the Jewish state."

Many observers said that the Hamas initiative amounted to

"Another round of bloodletting is inevitable," said one.

Rebels of the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF), sensing they are close to victory after more four years of bush war, are defiant.

"There are no negotiations," said RPF Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Kayonga at Kigali's bombed-out rebel headquarters.

The RPF now controls parts

of Kigali and has government forces besieged from strategic surrounding hills after taking the offensive after Habaryama's death.

The problem is not a cease-

fire. The problem is ceasing

the killing of people, the hacking, spearing and shooting to death of people," said Mr. Kayonga.

As many as 100,000 people

may have been killed in the

past two weeks, the U.S.-

based Human Rights Watch

group said in a letter to the

Security Council, made public

late on Tuesday.

Aid agencies said on Tues-

day unofficial estimates of as

many as two million people

were homeless were plausible.

Files of stinking corpses litter

the streets of Kigali and the

billy countryside, most of them

butchered by government sol-

diers and machete-wielding

Hutu militias for being from

the minority Tutsi clan or sup-

porting opposition parties.

Countless thousands of ci-

vilians can be seen trekking

aimlessly about the coun-

tryside, trying to avoid battles

between rebels and soldiers or

marauding Hutu militias.

"We came to assist Rwanda,

but we cannot impose any solu-

tion on the Rwandan people,

who have to help us to help

These people are behaving

positively to peace," Dr. Majali said.

AMMAN (Petra) — Lebanon's Parliamentary Speaker Nabih Berri on Wednesday ended a five-day visit to Jordan by describing his talks with His Majesty King Hussein and government leaders and Parliament members as extremely successful.

"My visit here achieved

many positive objectives, and

I can confirm that we are at

the threshold of a fruitful

stage of cooperation that

would reflect most positively

on Jordan and Lebanon and

the Arab countries at large," Mr. Berri said, in a pre-departure statement.

"The talks will have their

most beneficial effects on

cooperation among Arab

countries at this crucial

stage," he added.

Mr. Berri said that the

Middle East is currently witness-

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it is incumbent upon

Lebanon and Jordan to rise to the

level of responsibility," Mr. Berri said.

The King's statement came

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discussed means of enhancing Jordanian-Syrian relations in Awqaf and religious fields. The meeting was attended by

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